GATES V. AMERICA IS HE GETTING TOO BIG FOR HIS BOOTS?



STEPHEN GOODWIN THE END OF MY **EVEREST DREAM?**

PHIL HAMMOND MY NIGHT OF SHAME WITH PAUL MERTON

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Blair: 'We did nothing wrong'

By Fran Abrams and Andrew Buncombe

FEATURES, PAGE 14

TONY BLAIR yesterday backed the diplomat alleged to have helped organise the overthrow of the Sierra Leone regime with the support of mercenaries.

The Prime Minister said that while sanctions should never be broken, Peter Penfold, the High Commissioner to Sierra Leone, had "dooe a superb job".

Mr Blair's backing of his diplomat, seen as a softening of the Governmeot's line oo the "Arms to Africa" crisis, came as more details emerged over the role of Foreign Office minister Tony Lloyd in the operation to restore elected president Ahmed Tejan Kabbah.

The Independent has learnt that key members of a network linked to the mercenaries were invited to a conference organised by the Foreign Office at which Mr Lloyd was a guest speaker. At the conference, held to discuss the restoration of deposed President Kabbah, Mr Lloyd said: "The message to [the rebels] and let me make this absolutely clear, must be to get out while the possibility of doing so peacefully still remains.".

Mr Lloyd has insisted he was not aware that the plan to restore President Kabbah involved Sandline, the "military consultants" headed by the former British army officer Lt-Col Tim Spicer. However, many people at the conference were aware that President Kabbah and his exiled government were negotiating with

Among these individuals was Rupert Bowen, a former diplomat curreotly employed by Branch Energy, Tooy Buckingham, which shares a

Loodon address with Sandline. Mr Bowen, the former first sec- was also at the conference. retary to Namibia, is considered a key member of the Sandline network and sources say he is an important figure week, Sandline said it had regular-

Backing for FO as new evidence emerges of contacts with mercenaries



a mining company partly owned by Robin Cook deep in thought as he walks along Downing Street for a meeting with the Prime Minister yesterday as the row over arms to Sierra Leone raged Photograph: AP

Also present was John Hirsch, the US ambassador to Sierra Leone. Last

who arranged the deal with Sandline, were also present.

Mr Blair yesterday described the growing political row over Sandline's in introducing the company to new ly briefed him on its operation. In ad-shipment of arms to Sierra Leone in conp. foreign governments. Robert Brown, ditioo to President Kabbah, apparent breach of UN and EU sano,

oot forget that both the UN and the UK were trying to help the deinocratically elected regime to restore

its position from an illegal military "It was a democratically elected in dealing with the consequences of

another Branch Energy employee, members of his exiled government tions as a "hoo-haa". He said: "Let's regime that people were trying to the May coup," he said. "That is the help. They were quite right in trying to do it.

"Nobody should ever act in breach of a UN arms embargo but Mr Penfold did a superb job last year

background and people can see that a lot of the boo-ha is overblown."

Government". And he weot on: said in the npen."

"His comments oot only undermine the Customs and Excise investigation into allegations of criminal misconduct but also contradict the Foreign Secretary's statements to date.

"The confusion over the Government's positioo has deepened and we still don't know whether ministers are telling the full story."

Later, in the House of Lords, the Foreign Office minister Baroness Symons suggested that arms shipments to the exiled Sierra Leone government were illegal whether or oot they were shipped directly to the country.

"As I understand it, the Sierra Leone UN sanctions order prohibited sale or supply of arms ... for the purpose of delivery directly or indirectly or to the order of a person connected with Sierra Leone," she said.

The Independent understands that four shipments of up to 120 tonnes of arms were sent to President Kabbah in Conakry, Guinea, and in Freetown.

The conference was held In October at the Royal Overseas League, a private club in central Londoo. Among topics for discussion was the planned impositioo of sanctions against the rebel regime, headed by

Major Johnny Paul Koroma. The conference programme ooted: "The coup has had serious negative consequences for the country and the livelihood of its citizens. It has regrettably reversed the gains in economic and social reforms, disrupted economic activities and weakeoed iovestor and business confidence."

The conference outlined the programmes that the Kabbah government would implement within its first 90 days of its restoration and the need for an international peace-keeping force. But exactly how Mr Kabbah was in be restored to power was less explicit. "Everyooe knew this was a sensitive issue," said ooe delegate William Hague, the Conservative who attended. "It was something that leader, said the comments were "a was whispered about around the sign of the panic which is gripping the edges rather than something that was

India explodes three Rail companies are fined nuclear bombs

was to represent the

INDIA yesterday defied world opinion and stoked regional tensions by conducting three underground nuclear explosions the first for 24 years. The oews of the explosions stoked tensions with neighbouring Pakistan, which has fought three international ban on ouclear wars with India in the past 50 testing which was agreed by 149

Pakistan accused India of sucking it into "a nuclear arms race". The Pakistani foreign minister, Gohar Ayub Khan, called for international condemnatioo and sanctioos: They are more or less trying to say 'to hell with you'."

Britain and the European Unioo seemed more hesitant and confused. After five hours nf "no comment", Britain last night issued a statement on behalf of the European Unioo which talked of European "dismay". Both India and Pakistan have refused to sign up for the countries in 1996. Yesterday's test included a thermonuclear device, far more sophisticated

test in 1974. When the new Indian government, led by the nationalist BJP party, took over in March, US officials declared them- it emphasised that it intended selves "stimmed" by the news, to "exercise the option" to inand talked of possible sanctions. troduce nuclear weapons.

than the fission device includ-

ed in India's previous nuclear

Praful Bidwai, an independent weapons policy analyst who has campaigned for India to abandon its pursuit of nuclear weapons, said a thermonuclear device was a sign that India's programme has progressed considerably since it tested a simpler fission device in 1974, and warned: "China and Pakistan will regard us as a full-fiedged nuclear adversary and so we will have two nuclear arms races a small one with Pakistan and a big one with China."

Suzanna van Moyland, an analyst with Vertic, an independent arms control verificatioo group, described the explosions as "a negative land-

£4m over late trains

By Louise Jury

RAIL companies have been fined £4m for running trains which were late or with too few carriages, according to figures published yesterday. The latest Office of Passenger Rafi Franchising bulletin showed punctnality worsened on 35 routes and improved on only 17 in the past 12 months.

John O'Brien, the franchising director, warned train operators that some needed to "dramatically improve" their punctuality and reliability figures, which were "unsatisfactory" and had declined since last year. "Passengers have a right to expect performance to improve year-on-year Instead, issue again, page 10 | punctuality generally, although

still better than in 1995/96, has slipped back from the improvements achieved during 1996/97 ... I now urge the industry to ... bring about sustained improvement ... across

the whole network." The worst performers on punctuality were Virgin's West Coast services in Scotland, where 69.5 per cent of services were on time, although the company's much-criticised English operations improved.

Also singled out for running too many late trains were Great Western and Thames. Some of the blame was laid at the door of Railtrack, which instituted speed restrictions while repairing track.

A Great Western spokeswoman said: "There have been

have contributed to a worsening of our performance, including an unusually high number of speed restrictions -

40 - imposed by Railtrack." Keith Bill, of the Save Our Railways campaign, said many parts of the country were reaching a crisis. "If Tony Blair and John Prescott de not step in with some tough radical measures which will turn this right around, it won't be long before passengers yent their fury on New Labour and not the last administration." John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, who is in charge of transport, said if was unacceptable that in many cases the performance of train operators still continued to be worse than last year.

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Ministers tell sunscreen makers to cut their prices

Glenda Cooper onsumer Affairs Correspondent

UNCREAM manufacturers retailers should cut the ost of suntan lotions to make pre that people protect themlives from skin cancer, the Sovernment said yesterday.



the year so far, Nigel Griffiths, the consumer affairs minister. stressed that suntan lotions must not be seen as fashion products and should be available at the lowest possible prices.

Mr Griffiths said he had written to manufacturers and retailers, urging them to take all practical steps to bring down the price. He has urged them to follow the example of the Co-op supermarket chain, which announced two weeks ago that it was cutting the price of Britain's

After the bottest weekend of top brand sun protection skin cancer after playing as a added: "Anything which encreams and lotions - including child without any sun protection Ambre Solaire, Nivea and Piz

. A Co-op spokesman said sun lotions and creams would be reduced to cost price until the end of the summer to enall summer at the Co-op.

courage consumers to protect themselves. So while, for example, a bottle of Piz Brin Sun Lotion 25 200ml usually sells at £12.29, it is available for £6.39

-welcomed the move. "Clothing and creams are the only protection against the dangers of the sun," he said. "There desperately needs to be a cut in prices because sun creams at the moment are just too expensive for some families to

A spokesman for Cancer Research said there was a long way to go in pershading some The Labour MP Fraser people to alter their sunbathing London where it reached 25C Kemp - whose wife Pat suffered habits to reduce the risks. He (77F).

courages people to protect themselves for the lowest possible price is to be applauded." Weathermen yesterday pre-

dicted that the first hot spell of 1998 will continue for the next few days. Temperatures in many parts of the UK eclipsed those in Nice, or the Canaries, as seaside resorts reported a busy weekend. The highest temperature was recorded on Saturday in Norfolk and in south

Everest blow FEROCIOUS winds whip-

ping down Everest's Western Cwm have destroyed the advanced base camp where Stephen Goodwin and his team are staying. Page 3

Today's news

'Yes' campaign

A NUMBER of initiatives are being planned to boost the "Yes" campaign for the referendums in Ireland amid concerns that the Protestant community has yet to swing decisively in favour of the Ulster agreement. Page 6

INSIDE GUIDE: WEATHER, P2 • CROSSWORDS, P28 AND EYE P10 • TODAY'S TELEVISION, EYE P12 • FULL CONTENTS, P2

Labour still facing revolt over Murdoch's power

By Colin Brown Chief Political Correspondent

MARGARET BECKETT last night was facing Labour hackbench unrest about the power of Rupert Murdoch over the group, owners of the Times; and British press, in spite of vigorous lobbying led by Tony Blair to head-off a revolt on the second reading of the Government's Competition Bill.

The President of the Board of Trade met a group of more

than 20 Labour MPs before last night's vote to persuade them that the Bill and European case law was sufficient to deal with predatory pricing by Mr Murdoch's News International Tony Blair held private meetings with some backbench critics to reinforce her assurances.

But fears were not allayed when Mrs Beckett announced she would be seeking to throw out from the Bill an amendment

Nally, the Liberal Democrat peer, with the support of Labour peers, to outlaw the abuse of a dominant position by a national newspaper.

Mrs Beckett was effectively served notice by senior Labour hackbench MPs that there could be a rebellion during the Bill's later stages in the Commons, unless it is strengthened.

Chris Mullin, the Labour chairman of the Commons

made in the Lords by Lord Mc- Home Affairs select committee. said: "We aren't talking about We are talking about subvertpredatory pricing had taken £100 million in profit out of the broadsheet market.

Calling for a separate media Bill. Clive Soley, the chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party, said: "I have no doubt we need a mechanism for taking known as the Tetra Pak case, es-

David Winnick, a veteran interfering in the free market. Labour MP, said: "What is really required is effective legising of the free market." He said lation. The situation whereby the Times is deliberately undescutting other newspapers to drive them out of business is totally nudestrable."

The argument centres on Mrs Beckett's assurances that a European court judgement, tougher action when there is tablished that predatory pricing

would be illegal. Mrs Beckett said that the European Court of Justice ruled in that case that if prices were shown to be below the average variable cost of production, predatory pricing should be assumed.

Even if prices are above average variable costs but still below total average costs, conduct is to be regarded as predatory if it can be established that the purpose of that conduct is to eliminate a competitor," she

told MPs. A leading Labour eral Democrat spokesman, said pro-European, Giles Radice. Labour chairman of the Commons Treasury committee, said the law set out in that case "was quite tough" and would catch News International. "We should look carefully at Mrs Beckett's statement. I intend to get legal advice on it... I want to consider what happens in committee and I want to decide then what happens at the report stage."

But David Chidgey, the Lib-

the Tetra Pak case could only apply to newspapers which had already established a dominant position - 40 per cent of the market or as low as 20 per cent depending on the nature of the market. He said it would not apply

he had received legal advice that

to newspapers, such as the Times, which he said had a six per cent share, before they reached a dominant position.

TOMORROW ■ OLD MASTER

CLASS: Tom Lubbock on Dutch Art at the

National Visual Arts, The Eye

SIXTIES

SURVIVOR: Country loe comes back to town

The Eye, page 4

PLEATS PLEASE: Why that old school skirt is the height of

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UK newspapers in the first half of 1997.

Paedophiles use e-mail to lure children

Home Affairs Correspondent

PAEDOPHILES are using e-mail to engage schoolchildren in pornographic conversations, a chief constable told an international conference of police chiefs yesterday.

identified the development, which comes before government plans to give every schoolchild in the country an c-mail address. The Chief Constable of the Fife Constabulary, John Hamilton, told delegates at the 15th European Policing Executive Conference in Aberdeen that paedophiles were using e-mail to access potential victims and encourage them to exchange salacious information.

"It is unwise to leave children unsupervised if they have access to e-mail chat lines." Mr Hamilton said many offenders indulged in a practice known as "spoofing", which involved adults posing as teenagers to win the confidence of youngsters before encouraging them to swap pornographic conversations and images. "Spoofing" made it difficult to trace offenders.

Mr Hamiltoo said this form of computer crime was merely the tip of the iceberg of the deluse of internet crime which the world would face by 2000.

· The Easter conference of the Association of Teachers and Lecturers heard that a group of schoolchildren in Sheffield were homharded with messages by a paedophile gang after being

Fortunately, the youngsters

were sixth-formers and reported the problem.

The ATL said that it commissioned a survey of 4,000 children aged 11 to 16 and found that two-thirds of youngsters wished to have their own

Many children believed that Teachers said they had also staff could teach them nothing about computers. Some 40 per cent said they were more computer literate than their teachers and 31 per cent said they were more adept on the internet than staff.

The association now offers Cyber Patrol software to its members as a benefit, in order to place a filter on the internet sites to which children can gain access. Richard Margrave, of the ATL, said: "The union is increasingly worried that pupils can access pornographic and racist material."

According to Mr Hamilton, ioternet crime will be the biggest single challenge to law enforcement in the millennium. He said it was a global prob-

lem which required police forces across the world to recruit experts in the field or undertake dramatic retraining. Mr Hamilton also appealed

to parents to play their part in protecting youngsters who used the Internet. Delegates heard how, in a US study, 450,000 pornographic images were chance to buy shares in Thom- price which was itself at the up- out application forms. found to exist on bulletin son Travel Group due to ad- per end of the price range the boards. Computer crime was difficult to police because of the speed with which it was growing and the ingenious ways of-



Liberal Democrat peer Emma Nicholson enjoys a coffee with Hugh Dykes MP during a break in the proceedings of the European Movement's conference at the New Connaught rooms in London

Thomson investors make big gain in first day

By Andrew Yates

TENS OF thousands of inministrative problems with its company had set for investors. registered for shares well in adflotation missed out on a profit of up to £121 each as the shares soared on their first day

fenders were finding to cover on the stock market yesterday. Shares in the United King-

leapt to 211p in early trading, representing a 24 per cent pre-The shares closed at 193.5p yesterday, valuing Thomson at £1.9bu.

Angry investors who were denied shares are oow calling

Thousands of investors who vance of the flotation closing date last Thursday failed to receive forms in time to apply

The debacle marred what has

dom's largest tour operator for compensation from the been the most popular flotation crease the number of shares alshare shops who were respon- for years. One million people lotted to the public from the 10 sible for delays in registering registered an interest in buying per cent originally planned to vestors who were denied the mium to the 170p flotation potcotial investors and sending Thomson stock and more than 17 per cent. Even then the 500,000 private investors have offer was subscribed many times successfully steered their way over by private investors. past the administrative chaos to

> the flotation price. The flotation was so popular that Thomson had to in-

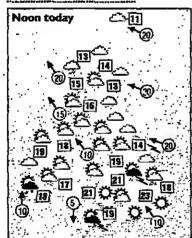
qualify for shares. They will get

294 shares each worth £500 at

Official trading in Thomson will start next Monday when private investors' share certificates are issued.

SFA to investigate share shops, page 19

WEATHER



Scotland and Northern Ireland are at risk of seeing a few showers but there will also be some surmy spells, with the exception of North Sea coasts in Scotland where it England and Wales with the risk of the odd one of these turning heavy and thundery but meny parts will be dry and very warm, if not hot. However, it will be a lot cooler along eastern coasts of England where it will be breezy with low cloud lingering for much of the day.

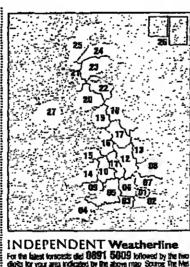
Outlook for the next few days Wednesday will be a hot day in England and Wales away from coasts where there will be cooling sea breezes. Scotland and Northern Ireland will turn very warm with surery spells although it will be misty along the east coast of Scotland. There is the risk of showers arrywhere on Wednesday but these will be lew and lar between. The corning week will see little change although it will become cooler in England and Wales.

British Isles weather most recent available figure at noon local time C.cloudy, Cl.cloor; F.fair; Fg.log; Hz.haze; M.mist; R.rain;

Res bred A	F	1254	Eperasay	Ç	17	6
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Lighting-up times Sun & moon

World weather must recent available figure at most local time

Atlantic chart, noon today Leas S and X will lose their literative. Low Y will drift north-easthern's Low B will note:

HARTSTON WEATHER WISE

SUMMER is here! Or so it would seem from the joyful reports of the hottest day of the year in London over the weekend. On Sunday, a temperature of 22°C was registered in London, while on Saturday, locations in hoth Norfolk and south London reached 25°C.

But really it's nothing to get excited about. Weather reporters, like most other reporters, love superlatives. Of of the year. Every day has a put your umbrellas away.

Message Modem

fair chance of heing the hottest of the year until you get to the middle of August. And with a particularly cold April (the wettest April this century, superlativemongers tell us) - an April that was colder than March for only the fifth time this century - any sunny day in early May is likely to be the warmest of the

As warm May days go. the present weather is nothing special. The warmest May day recorded in Kew saw a temperature of 30.6°C, and even the average warmestday-in-May temperature is 24.3°C. And if you really want a warm May day in London, you have only to go back to Regeot's Park in 1944 for a

temperature of 32.8°C. With the slightly unusual combination of warm southerly air from Africa, a dry, easterly wind from the continent. and an area of high pressure over the country, the Southeast is enjoying a pleasant spell of warm weather. That's all. No need for superlatives. Summer isn't here yet. Just a course it was the hottest day few days' nice weather. Don't

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Ferocious winds are howling; our base camp is destroyed. Will this be farewell to Everest?



Everest Diary

Base Camp

THERE WAS a sound like the roar of a fleet of 747 jets overhead as great plumes of snow and vapour flew from the west shoulder of Everest.

Ferocious winds whipped down Everest's Western Cwm last night and this morning, demolishing nearly all our Himalayan Kingdoms Expeditions tents and many of those of other teams. Our advanced base camp has been destroyed.

Fortunately no lives have been reported lost, though for a while we feared one of our Sherpas had suffered a frostbitteo hand as two of them battled through the Cwm.

The scene at Base Camp around breakfast was reminiscent of photographs of wives at pithead gates after mining disasters. Groups of Sherpas and climbers clustered near their mess tents gazing up towards the head of the Khumhu Icefall and the entrance to the Cwm.

Out of the Cwm itself, snow billowed in whirlwinds, snaking down the upper icefield.

Our own camp was ucoccupied - but with the likelihood of vital equipment scattered by the wind, a questioo mark hangs over any sum-

Gear, missing or otherwise, was oot our first thought this morning. Nima Dorjee and Pemha Tsering, two of our most experienced Sherpas, left before dawn with a colleague, "Big" Dorjee, from an American team to try and reach Camp 2 to assess storm damage. They were somewhere in the maelstrom of blowing snow we could see hundreds of metres above us.

In addition, a handful of Sherpas based at Camp 2 for others in the international circus of teams were hanging on in a large dome tent, trying to keep it from collapsing despite two hrokeo poles.

in first day

Strangely, though the mouth of the Cwm is only 600 metres above Base Camp, we stood watching in relative calm and sunshine. However, there was no mistaking the menace of the wind's roar and the coocern of the Sherpas, who on any other slack morning would have turned to playing cards and laughter.

The timing of the hlast is sobering. It is pretty well two years to the day since nine climbers died when similar fierce winds caught them out above the South Col.

As the sunshine gave way to steady snowfall, most of the day was spent criss-crossing between camps



Winds whipping snow off the upper reaches of Everest during the storm. Below: Nima Temba trying to make contact with Camp 2 Photographs; Stephen Goodwin and Jim Williams, using Fuji DS-300 digital cameras

of different nationalities piecing to-Pun. Camp 2 cook with the US team of tents hurting down the Cwm. some of them maybe our own.

Tents belonging to the Iranian team also took to the air like maeic carpets - unbeknown to their owners who, tired of hanging around Base Camp for a weather window, have gooe down the valley to Nam-

Nima and Pemba reached Camp 2 at about 11am, did what they could to secure the wreckage and then set off back. It was a vain effort. In whiteout conditions and unable to see their way in the heavily crevassed Cwm and what can be salvaged, it is im-

they were forced to turn back and possible to know whether we are still gether information. Shyam Prasad take refuge with Shyam and the able to mount a summit bid if the others in Whittaker's battered dome weather improves. All our downof disabled climber Tom Whittaker. tent. With only patchy radio contact, jackets, salopettes, and other high alhad watched sleeping bags and bits it was feared for a while that Nima titude gear was in the tents. had a frost-bitten hand. Later, after apparently plunging his hands in weather on our higher camps, with frustrating husiness of trying to inwarm water, we heard he had luck our four tents at Camp 3 at

> Their damage report on the camp had been blown away, three of the five team-member tents were flattened with gear still inside them and the other two are missing, as are all

> three tents used by the Sherpas. Until we know what has been lost

As for the effect of the wild regained the use of his hand, but 7,200m oo the Lhotse Face will only time will reveal the exteot have been buried by snow and can simply be dug out. The one tent that our Sherpas erected at the South Col was less encouraging: the cook tent could well be history, though the oxygen bottles and other gear should still

> With a bit of luck, the wind will have eased sufficiently tomorrow for Sherpas, and possibly some team members, to go up the Icefall and go into the Cwm to start the salvage op-

eration. It is expected to be a combined effort by most of the international teams here - the disaster having hit everyone. Meanwhile in Base Camp.

climbers will again be engaged in the terpret weather forecasts and guess the movement of the jet stream, at the moment blowing directly over It is a change in the track of these

high-altitude winds that creates the calmer weather window climbers try to exploit each spring. But over the past week we have watched plumes of cloud rushing across the mountain tops at speeds of up to 100mph, and more are forecast.

David Callaway, our New York



physics professor, has been growling

A full collection of Stephen about El Nino causing an upset in the jet streams, maybe delaying the window by weeks or even shutting it altogether.

Goodwin's Everest diaries, with photographs can be found on The Independent's web site www.independent.co.uk

'Voice of Swimming' sacked over bribes

By Linus Gregoriadis

HAMILTON Bland, the socalled "Voice of Swimming", was sacked by both the BBC and the Amateur Swimming Association yesterday for bringing the sport into disrepute after an inquiry found he had taken consultant, Hamiltoo Bland bribes from pool manufacturers.

Mr Bland, the swimming body's facilities consultant, took "secret commissions" from manufacturers while giving advice to councils about new pools, according to an inde-

Smaller

pendent inquiry carried out by solicitors' firm, Herbert Smith.

David Sparkes, the ASA's chief executive, said yesterday that the findings of the report would be handed over to the po-

He said: "As ASA facilities was in a position of trust and influence, a position which he has clearly abused. Mr Bland has betrayed the trust that both we and our partners put in him. We had no alternative but to relieve him of all duties with the ASA.

"There is no doubt that as a direct result of Mr Bland's activities the ASA's reputation has suffered, particularly with local authorities and the Sports Council. Clearly there are some bridges to be built and we are working towards restoring con-

fidence in the ASA." The report was ordered by the ASA last July after investigations by World in Action and a national newspaper showed that the former Olympic coach had made a fortune from the

The BBC, who have used Mr Bland as a commentator since 1975, said in a statement yesterday that it would be "inappropriate" to cootinue to employ him.

Mr Bland, who lives in a mansion in Warwickshire, reached an agreement with Han Moover, the owner of a company called Poly Pool Floors Limited (PPF) specialising in moveable floors for swimming pools, according to the inquiry.

The report concludes: There is no difference in law between a secret commission and a bribe. The evidence is incontrovertible, therefore, that Mr Bland took a number of bribes from Mr Mooyer in exchange for promoting or recommending PPF's floors."

The inquiry, carried out by Mark Gay, a partner at the law firm who specialised in sport, cleared Mr Bland of any wrongdoing in his roles as promoter recommendation that the posi- ority to any project on which he of the ASA awards, and as tion of ASA facilities officer was instructed."



Hamilton Bland, 'the voice of swimming', with a group of

head of his company SwimGB. In a statement yesterday, Hamilton Bland said: "I absolutely deoy that I have brought the ASA or myself into disrepute."

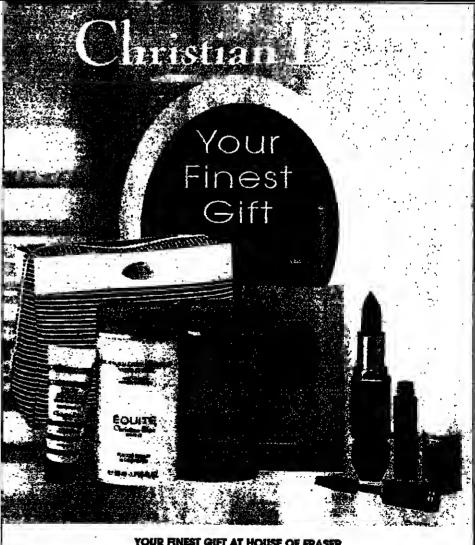
A copy of the report has also been sent to Chris Smith, the Culture, Media and Sport Secretary, who has already said that he would pass the report to the he was advising the ASA as to police if it contained evidence of illegal behaviour.

Mr Bland gave evidence to Mr Gay's inquiry in February after he suffered a hrain haem-

should be advertised as a fulltime position, funded by the English Sports Council. The independent inquiry

said: "Mr Gay investigated allegations made in the World In Action programme that Mr Bland acted in conflict of interest in advising lottery applications, while at the same time what priority should be accorded to projects by the ASA as part of the sports governing body consultation exercise.

"Mr Gay found that Mr orrhage at the end of last year. Bland had at no time acted for Mr Sparkes said that the the English Sports Council and ASA had acted on the report's at no time accorded an ASA pri-



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Trapped cat burglar admits Picasso plot



Scott, who claimed in court that he had retired from crime 10 years ago to become a celebrity tennis coach

Photograph: Scope

A CELEBRATED can burglar who claimed to have renounced his life of crime yesterday admitted his role in a plot to sell a stnlen £650,000 Picasso.

As a jury at Snaresbrook Crown Court in east London was about to retire to consider its verdict, Peter Scott, 67, changed his plea to guilty to conspiring to handle the painting, Tête de Femme, stolen in a daring raid at gunpoint nn a gallery last year.

Scott was granted bail until semencing by Judge Andrew. Brooks who warned him: "This is an extremely grave and serious matter which attracts a substantial term of imprisonment." Speaking outside the court after yesterday's five-minute hearing. Scott said that he was a victim of circumstance".

Scott was the author of a book, Gentleman Thief - Recollections of a Cat Burglar, which recounted his 30-year career of thefts from stars including Sophia Loren and Elizabeth



Picasso's Tête de Femme, stolen at gunpoint in

Taylor. But during the five-day court hearing, he insisted he had "retired" from crime 10 years ago to become a celebrity ten-

He claimed he had been an innocent go-between in a private deal arranged by Ronald Spring, a 70-year-old business accomplice, and another friend who was the man who robbed the Lefevre Gallery in Mayfair in March last year...

Scott changed his nriginal not guilty plea after the jury heard that he met the robber, who cannot be named for legal reasons, shortly after the raid and passed the work to Ronald

He had earlier told the court that he had known the raider for a number of years and regard-... had been out of loyalty.

However, Ronald Spring. who earlier admitted handling the Picasso and agreed to give evidence against Scott, said that Scott had handed him a suitcase containing the stolen painting on the evening of the raid and demanded money. Spring, a former legal executive who is also awaiting sentencing. said: "He told me he wanted be tween £70,000 and £75,008 within seven days."

Scott was then caught in a sting operation by undercover detectives a week after the theft. Officers moved in to arrest him as he walked away from a rendezvous with Spring at the Sherlock Holmes Hotel in London's Baker Street. Although he told the court he was not interested in any money from the deal, he was hulding a plastic carrier bag of cash and smiling tn himself.

After the hearing, Scott said the weight of evidence against him had forced him to change his plea. "I was intellectually and morally convinced that after the prosecution's very skilful crossexamination, I could not continue to sustain this not guilty plea without jeopardising my 10 years of honesty, deceacy and hard work."

Detective Constable Andrew Kennedy, of the National Crime Squad, said he thought that Scott was driven by publicity." I think he revels in infamy. He's a likeable rogue, but having said that he is still someed him as a "surrogate son". He one who has committed a series said that anything he had done of very serious crimes through-



THE five men named in connection with the murder of the black teenager Stephen Lawrence have been issued with summonses ordering them to attend the public inquiry being held into his death, a spokesman for the inquiry said. "There has been no indication that they will not attend," he added:

Michael Holmes, the lawyer for one of the five, Gary Dobson, 22, said he would attend the hearing. "If he gets a summons he has no option. If he did not he would be in contempt." Mr Dobson, Neil Acourt, also 22, and Luke Knight, 20, were cleared of Stephen's murder at the Old Bailey in 1996 after a private prosecution brought by the Lawrence family collapsed. David Norris and Jamie Acourt, both 21, were charged with the killing but the cases were thrown out at committal stage.

The documents order the five men to appear at the tribunal in south London on 8 June, but the inquiry spokesman said this was the earliest date at which they could be required. Failure to attend or give evidence could lead to a witness being jailed for up to six months and fined up to £1,000.

Driver 'fine' after lorry terror

A POLICE report on the motorway incident in which a lorry driver guided his vehicle through traffic at 70mph after the accelerator jammed was submitted to the Department of Transport's Vehicle Inspectnrate yesterday.

Five police cars and a helicopter cleared the route ahead after the driver, Michael Rayner, 26, alerted them to his predicament by mobile phnne at about 11am on Sunday. Mr Rayner escaped unburt after bringing the vehicle to halt by switching off the engine and steering into a crash barrier on the M1 just

nutside London. The Scania P124 Inrry, registered in January 1998, was contracted to waste management firm Polkacrest of Wrotham, Kent. A company spokesman said: "Everyone is relieved that what could have been a nasty incident ended safely. Mr Rayner is fine, but totally overwhelmed by all the interest in the story. He has gone away for a couple of days to recuperate."

'Misogynist' council claim

A COUNCIL solicitor was groped by a senior official after he had too much to drink, it was claimed at an industrial trihunal in north London yesterday.

Amanda Kelly, 41, said the man-who cannot be named for legal reasons - accosted her at a hotel where a meeting was being held for the directors of Camden Council, north London She said she complained after the incident in July 1994, but was sworn to secrecy by the then chief of personnel. Ms Kelly, now the council's deputy chief executive, is claiming sexual discrimination against the chief executive. Steve Bundred, 46. She says the council had a "misogynistic" atmosphere. The council and Mr Bundred deny the allegations. The hearing continues today.

BA seeks to foil easylet

BRITISH Airways yesterday moved to block a court action by low-cost airline easyJet which apposes BA's entry into the no-frills European market. EasyJet, operating ont of Luton airport, has issued High Court proceedings seeking injunctions to prevent BA "illegally cross-subsidising" its new low-fare subsidiary, Go, which plans to start services later this month from Stansted. But BA has asked a Commercial Court judge to "strike nut" easylet's claim as "unsustainable in law and disclosing no cause of action". The hearing is expected to last three days.

Doctor on murder charge

THE hospital anaesthetist. Thomas Shanks, 47, was remanded in costody when he appeared in court yesterday charged with the murder of Vicky Fletcher. The doctor is accused of killing the 21-year-old nurse nutside a public house, in Castleford, West Yorkshire, last Thursday night.

The best help for students

The Independent is the top source of information about university course places, according to a Universities and Colleges Admissions Service survey of undergraduates. Sixty-three per cent of applicants used the listings published in the paper.



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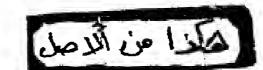
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sex session 'captured

A DETECTIVE whn has been suspended oo full pay for more than three years was taped by colleagues allegedly having sex with a police witness without her

on tape'

The Independent has obtained a transcript of the officer apparently having sex with the woman, in which she says "oo" or rejects his advances oo 17 occasions

The transcript forms part nf an investigation intn 34 allegations made against the former South East Reginnal Crime Squad officer by the witness, most seriously that he repeatedly had unlawful sexual intercourse with her between May 1993 and August 1994 at two "safe houses" in Essex.

As The Independent reportbeen receiving a salary of about £30,000 a year since his suspension in late 1994, but no decision has yet been taken by the Metropolitan Police on whether he should he disciplided.

In a statement given by the witness to Scotland Yard's Complaints Investigatino Bureau in September 1994, she details the growth of a highly unprofessional relationship which started with the detective's involvement in the arrest of drug suspects linked to her, and progressed into him having sex with her, allegedly sharing her reward money and even allegedly supplying her with drugs.

The Crown Prosecution Service regarded the woman, a former drug addict, as too unreliable a witness to allow criminal proceedings against the officer. It is understood the Po-plinary purposes, it may be police Complaints Authority made teotially valuable.

a recommendation as to his future a year ago, but he has remained suspended on full pay.

Other allegations being investigated by the CIB are that the officer "dishonestly appropriated 4 kilos of heroin from a total quantity of 40 kilos that were seized"; that in March 1994, he "unlawfully supplied the complainant with a firearm and a case of bullets"; and that he "unlawfully supplied the complainant with dangerous drugs", cannabis, LSD and ecstasy.

The witness also claims the officer stole money from her, told her what to say in a witness statement in a bid to pervert the course of justice, tapped her phone, dishnnestly haodled £25,000 and failed to act on information about other crimes.

In her statement, the witness, a mother of two, indicates that ed two weeks ago, the officer has sex with the married officer took place many times, but by the time their relationship ended, she said she no lunger wanted to have sex with him.

Before the last session was recorded, she appears to have been primed to use key words. For example, in ooe instance, she says: "I doo't want sex, [Officer's name] you're penetrating me." He replies: "That's it, yeah." Again, apparently for the benefit of the microphooes, she says: "[Name] you're pulling my drawers down ... why, I don't want it. Please put them back on." He replies: "No."

The tape's value as a piece of criminal evidence is debatable as it features a woman who has consented to be recorded in advance of supposedly being forced to have sex. However, as a piece of evidence for disci-

Detective's Mother battles the blight of Millennium Dome building work



Reprieved: Carolyne Rushton with her daughter Bertha (above) can stay in their cottage until the appeal

Photograph: Andrew Buurman refused their offers.

By Clare Gamer

MANY people bate the Millennium Dome but Carolyne Rushton has more reason than most. Since building work began, she has been condemned to live in a contaminated dust bath, with rats in the garden and drilling at dawn. While her oeighbours have been rehoused, she claims she has not been offered suitable alternative accommodation.

"Look at that dome causing all this trouble. All the muck and all the ooise," Ms Rushtnn said, trying to soothe her 22-month-old daughter, Bertha. Six months pregnant with her second child, Ms Rushton, 33, a single mother, is at her wits end "struggling to keep it together".

Yesterday she made a successful plea at the Court of Appeal against a possession order which would have left her homeless. She has been given security to stay in the 19thcentury gas worker's cottage overlooking the dome development in Greenwich, south-east London, until the appeal is heard.

A spokesman for Loodoo and Quadrant Housing Trust, which until recently leased the house from English Partnerships, said they had offered Ms Rushton other homes and the local council had agreed tn rehouse her, but that she had declined to contact the council and

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Ministers act to cut school exclusions

By Judith Judd Education Editor

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MINISTERS yesterday promised to stop schools excluding too many pupils as they produced a new report showing big variations in exclusion rates.

Just one-quarter of secondary schools are responsible for two-thirds of permanent exclusions and one-quarter do not exclude any pupils. Last year, the exclusioo rate in Hammersmith and Fulham, in west London, was four times that of Newham in east London and more than

six times that of Oxfordshire. The report from the Prime Minister's Social Exclusion Unit wants to reduce exclusions by encouraging schools to intervene earlier to cope with unruly

pupils. It says: inspectors should be sent in to schools which exclude the most pupils.

Reague tables should show bow school excludes permaneouly. schools should introduce "sanctuaries" where disruptive pupils can cool off.

The report says that some supils are being excluded for wearing nose study or trousers not bought from an approved supplier. There is anecdotal evidence that schools are excluding difficult children so poor results do not affect their position in examination league tables. Exclusions have risen four- education of their fellow pupils."

fold since 1990. Last year about 13,000 pupils were permanently excluded. The report also aims to cut truency from the Govemment's estimated figure of one million children each year - out of around 7.5 million pupils.

Stephen Byers, the school standards minister, said: "By reducing the levels of truancy and school exclusions we will effectively cut off one of the main supply routes to welfare dependency, joblessness and criminal behaviour."

For the first time, pupils who are permanently excluded will have the right to full-time education either in a "sin-bin" or pupil referral unit or at another school. Some receive only three or four hours tuition a week.

David Blunkett, the Secretary of State for Education, is hoping to receive money for the changes from the Government's comprehensive spending review due to report in July so that many pupils each secondary they can start to introduce the new arrangements from next year. Costs in pupil referral units are four times as high as those in ordinary schools.

David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said: "Setting artificial targets for the reduction of truancy and exclusions will not, of itself, achieve anything unless heads are given the support they need to deal effectively with those pupils who ruin the

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No surrender – Paisley's fire and brimstone gospel

Defender of loyalist 'faith' rages against papist conspiracy.

Kim Sengupta reports

THE NOISE at the ultra-loyalist rally at Mnigashel in Co Tyrone was deafeningly loud, repetitive and insistent. There was also a booming lambeg drum, traditionally used in Orange parades - but it was no match for the Rev Ian Paisley.

To bis critics Mr Paisley, fiery preacher, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party and standard bearer of the 'no' campaign against the Stormont agreement, symbolises the historical intransigence of Ulster Protestantism.

According to the polls, Mr Paisley has become a catalyst in the referendum campaign. He is entrenching the views of some loyalists who fear betrayal and slide towards united Ireland, but there are also those who are being driven into the 'yes' camp by what they see as his negativism and demagoguery.

The Government and the Ulster Unionist Party plan in capitalise on this in the run-up to polling day nn 22 May. But Northern Ireland observers point out that Mr Paisley's involvement and influence in the province's politics is as long-standing as the conflict itself, and you write him off at your peril.

The "Big Man", now aged 72, still has formidable pulling power. At the Moigashel rally, around 300 people

turned up to stand in the rain and of aggression and fatalism. Tony hear his invective against the peace process, and his description of its backers as agents of the devil.

On the makeshift platform, Mr Paisley was surrounded by the leading figures of the "no" campaign. In the wet night, under flickering street lights, the speeches were n mixture nrned by the British government.

Blair, Bertie Ahern, and George Mitchell, who chaired the multi-party talks, had conspired to deliver free Ulster into a papist united Ireland, declared Mr Paisley. David Trimble and other pro-agreement Unionists were traitors who had been sub-

almost straining out of his tightlybuttnned white raincoat and tightly-knntted Union Jack tie, Dr Paisley raged: "They are liars. They have graduated from the devil's

the Union and given the title deeds Catholics after the assassination of to have been flung in their faces.

Thumping his fist into his palm, nf Ulster to Dublin on a plate. These people have sold nut Ulster. As for Maze prison. me, I would rather starve than take

The audience who blocked the town's main road included associates of the Loyalist Volunteer Force They have destroyed the act of who went nn a killing spree of their loyalty to the Union appears

filthy British money."

their leader, Billy Wright, in the

Mr Paisley has publicly dissociated himself from them. But also present were many ordinary working-class and middle-class Protestants who seemed bewildered that

have destroyed the act of the Union and given the title deeds of Ulster to Dublin on a plate'

Photograph: Brian Harris They fear they have been sacrificed for the sake of political expediency.

There were the standard attacks on Sinn Fein, the IRA and republicanism, but the real venom was directed at Unionists who are backing the peace accord.

Posters decried the alleged betrayal: "What's the difference be-tween David Trimble and Wolfe Tone? - 200 years," said one. Leaflets were handed out by courteous shaven-headed young men describing David Ervine of the Progressive Unionist Party as "the IRA's secret weapon".

The peace process is expected to face its most serious threat in the coming loyalist marching season. To those present, it was their birthright to take part in these marches without interference from the Government or republicans. Mr Paisley made his contribution: "Some of us" here will be back up Drumcree and down again ... it's no, it's no and it's no surrender."

Afterwards in the local Orange Hall, a quieter and more subdued. Dr Paisley, as if spent by his rage. answered questions from a group of journalists. He had nothing against Catholics, he stressed, but added there is a theological theory that the Pope "was the anti-Christ".

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Blair spearheads drive for 'Yes' vote in Ulster

By David McKittrick Ireland Correspondent

A NUMBER of initiatives are being planned to boost the Yes campaign for the 22 May refer- anced, with a great many still endums, amid concerns that opinion in the Protestant community has yet to swing deci- which Tooy Blair answered itary organisations." Friday agreement.

Tony Blair will pay a second visit to Belfast later this week, while Chancellor Gordon Brown is planning a multi-million pound package aimed at creating employment in Northern Ireland.

Meanwhile, in an independent initiative two Belfast Protestant ministers will tnday announce the names of 150 ministers and 100 lay leaders who are recommending a Yes vote. All have subscribed to a declaration which states: "Whilst there are parts of the agreement which are unclear or even unsatisfactory, we believe that the agreement offers an opportunity for a new begin-

It has become obvious that both northern and southern nationalists are virtually unanimnus in their support for the not given up the path of violence

weeks to go to the vital referendums on the agreement, the signs are that Protestant and unsure of how to vote.

vely in favour of the Good guestions on Belfast's Downtown Radio yesterday confirmed the sense of a high level nf Unionist anxiety. The pattern of questions, apparently mainly from Protestant callers, reflected concerns about the sincerity of the republican movement's commitment to democracy, the early release of prisoners and

the future of the RUC. The Prime Minister said there was no plan to disband the RUC, assuring callers that prisoners would only be released from jails, on licence, if both the individuals and their organisation had given up violence.

He insisted there would be nn fudging on the arms decommissioning issue, saying nf the possibility of Sinn Fein taking office: "We can't have a situatinn where people whn have

accord. But with less than two are taking office in the Northern Ireland government."

He also promised "an absolute and determined will on Unionist opinion is evenly bal- behalf of the Government to clean up whatever dissident or disparate splinter elements A phooe-in programme in there may be of these paramil-

en to IRA prisoners, including members of the Balcombe Street gang, at Sinn Fein's weekend conference was seen as a setback to the Unionist Yes campaign.

Ulster Unionist leader David Trimble said: "The decision of the Secretary of State to release IRA terrorists so they could attend a meeting of Sinn Fein/IRA is going to have a negative impact. It ties in with a lot of similar actions in which she has shown considerable indulgence to republicans but considerable insensitivity towards Unionists."

Meanwhile, up to 400 prison officers staged demonstrations outside jails in Northern Ireland in protest against suggestions by the nperational director of prison services, Martin Mogg, that some may be opposed to

MPs seek resignation of NHS trust chief

By Jeremy Laurance Health Editor

A GROUP of MPs yesterday

demanded the removal of the chairman nf a majnr London teaching hospital to set an example in the rest of the National Health Service that poor management will not be interated.

They said heads must be made to roll when managers fail to come up in scratch and called on Frank Dobson, Secretary of State for Health, to accelerate the introduction of performance measures for NHS boards.

In a rare display of public anger directed at one individual that echoes Mr Dobson's own determination to hold public figures in account, the Commins Select Committee nn Public Administratinn said Sir Ronald Mason, chairman of the University Callege London Hospitals Trust, should have resigned after the trust was severely criticised by the NHS nmbudsman last year.

At nne stage the nmbudswas conducting five investigations into complaints against the trust without any nnticeable impact on its management, the MPs say. The principal case involved

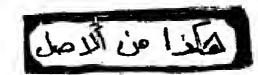
the daughter of a man who died who was not told of her father's deteriorating condition and subsequent death and was nnt allowed to see his body for several bnurs after he died. After an investigation, the ombudsman found that the trust had shown a "disgraceful lack of sensitivity to a bereaved relative", failed in provide proper care, and failed to respond properly

in complaints from her. Sir Ronald, who chaired a committee dealing with complaints to the trust, told the MPs that there was nothing in the nmbudsman's criticisms that made him dnubt his own performance. Yesterday, the committee said his confidence was "completely unfounded" and invited Mr Dobson to remove him. "It is essential that NHS bodies are made properly accountable when they fail; if prompt action had been taken in this case, we believe it would bave sent a message to the NHS in general which would have had a galvanising effect

across the institution." Charles Marshall, the chief executive of UCH at the time the events occurred in 1994-95 who was also criticised, left the trust last March.

Failings in eight NHS trusts and health authorities are highlighted in the committee's latest report into the work of the NHS Ombudsman for 1996-97. It says it is particularly concerned about managers who have failed to respond to earlier criticism and urges ministers to deal decisively with those

responsible. Last night Sir Ronald Mason said he saw nothing in the committee's report to cause him to resign. Referring to the case nf the bereaved daughter, he said: "Whilst I deeply regret the failings ... we have made significant changes ensuring such problems are very unlikely to recur, as is evidenced by our performance over the past three years."



A TALE OF

Banbury 40,000 Sittingbourne 37,000

Unemployment Banbury 2 per cent Sittingbourne 4.4 per cent (national average 4.9 per cent) Crime (year ending March 1998)

TWO TOWNS

Burglaries in Banbury down from 825 to 747. Burglaries in Sittingsourne down from 1,248 to 860

Banbury's Ride a Cock Horse rhyme

widely recognised by the 1780s. Sittingbourne mentioned Chaucer's Conterbury Tales.

Banbury's top three companie Kraft, Jacob and Suchard (employs

I, 100), Vodafone Retail UK (700),

Alex Lawrie Factors (640).

Tea, cakes and mobile phones: the secret of a boom town

By Kate Watson-Smyth

FOR years Banbury was known simply as a "tea and wee" stop along the A41 for travellers heading towards the theatrical delights of the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford or the dreaming spires of Oxford.

But despite its reputation as the town that everyone simply. passes through, this market town of 40,000 inhabitants has just been named as the most prosperous town for business in the country, with the highest proportioo of profit-making husinesses io the UK.

At the other end of the scale, Sittingbourne, in oorth Keot, came last at 190th, much to the chagrin of the town's local council.

The research was based oo a database of "key British enterprises" gathered by the business informatioo consultancy, Dun & Bradstreet, which cootains details of the 50,000 largest companies in the UK, along with building societies and firms of solicitors and accoun-

Philip Mellor, a senior analyst at the company, said Banbury's success was based on its communication links and qual-

"A lot of companies have moved there over the last three or four years and that has had a knock-oo effect for many of the companies that were already there," he said. "It is close to both Loodon and the Midlands and is situated right next to the M40 which means that it is well placed for distribution.

"Another reason is that its market is basically domestic so it has not been affected in the same way as businesses which rely heavily oo exports."

Chris White, president of Banbury's Chamber of Commerce, said that unemployment was only two per ceot and the success of companies relocating to the town, had greatly increased the standard of living.

He added that the demand for housing had increased greatly and there were plans for more than 4000 houses by 2011.

But while the inhabitants of Banbury were delighted by the



Time out: People's Park in Banbury yesterday. The town's quality of life has persuaded new firms to move in

survey, the residents of Sittingbourne, where unemployment was last month below the nadonal average of 4.9 per cent, were less than pleased.

Peter Jolley, the economic development maoager for Swale Council, which includes Sittingbourne, said the town has "never had it so good".

cessful husinesses here and the their way to Canterbury Cathe-stopping for refreshments. retail side is really buoyant," he draft nowadays it is more like-

year from tourism, but where- in one of the three prisons on

"There are a lot of very sue- as much of that came from oo the oearby Isle of Sheppey

One of the main problems said. The area makes £86m a ly to be relatives of the immates is that we do not have the space to expand - to the north

Paper Company (500), New Thames Paper Company (400), Milton Pipes (200). of the town there are 28,000

acres that have been designat-

ed as a special site for migrat-

ing birds and we cannot develop

arheads 'Yes' **Jister**

North Sea oil rigs 'can be removed'

By Michael McCarthy Environment Correspondent

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esignation ist chief

safety reasons why all the oil platforms in the North Sea . Michael Meacher, the envi-Norwegian North Sea oil engiocer told a Loodon conference yesterday.

The view of the British oil industry and the British Governmeot - that some very heavy platforms in deep water might oeed to be dumped oo the seabed - is mistaken, according supported by Norway, the othto Ronald Seim, a consultant to the Stavanger-based contractors tor, it is opposed by the 15 other Aker Offshore Partner AS.

Mr Seim and his company were involved in removing and dismantling the largest oil installation to be taken out of the North Sea, the Esso Odin gas platform, which was heavier than the Government thinks is practicable for removal.

(OSPAR), the body which regmarine environment in the there is a huge amount of ponorth-east Atlantic. In the af- tential environmental damage. termath of the 1995 controversy over Brent Spar, OSPAR is alternative uses. In the Gulf Of framing a treaty to be signed in Mexico, the oil companies want July which will prohibit the sen to take the platforms out but endumping of all North Sea oil installations at the end of their want to keep them as artificial natural lives.

Independent, Britain is seeking they should be looked at oo a

metres of water whose underwater substructure weighs more THERE are oo technical or than 4,000 tonnes. There are 64 such platforms in UK waters.

cannot be removed, a senior ronment minister, confirmed the Government's position yesterday: "I think everyone accepts the heaviest structures, or those that are fractured, or are in the deepest water, cannot be safely brought back to land, but in all other cases they will he."

Although Britain's stance is er major North Sea oil operamember states of OSPAR, who want a blanket ban on dumping

James May, Director-General of the UK Offshore Operators Association (UKOOA). the body that represents Britain's North Sea oil companies said yesterday: "The questioo is, what is the best. Mr Seim was addressing a environmental option? To take preliminary meeting in Londoo out something like Esso Odin of the Oslo-Paris Commission you would use huge amounts of energy - enough energy to powulates the protection of the er Aberdeen for a month - and

"Some platforms may have vironmentalists and fishermen reefs, because they help the re-As revealed in yesterday's covery of the fisheries. We think the option of dumping in situ case-by-case basis," he said.

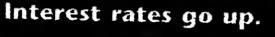
DAILY POEM

The Bottlebrush Flowers

By John Kinsella

A Council-approved replacement for box trees along the verges of suburban roads, it embarrasses with its 100 sudden blush - stunning at first, then a burning reminder of something you'd rather forget. And it unclothes so ungraciously its semi-clad, mangy, slovenly, first thing-in-the-morning appearance. And while I've heard it called a bristling firelick, a spiral of Southern Lights, I've also seen honey-eaters bob upside down and unpick its light in seconds.

This week's poems celebrate the work of John Kinsella, who was born in Perth. Western Australia in 1963, and mark the simultaneous publication of his Poems 1980-1994 (Bloodaxe, £9.95) and his oew volume, The Hunt (Bloodaxe, £7.95). This poem, reprinted in Poems, first appeared in Eschatologies (1991).





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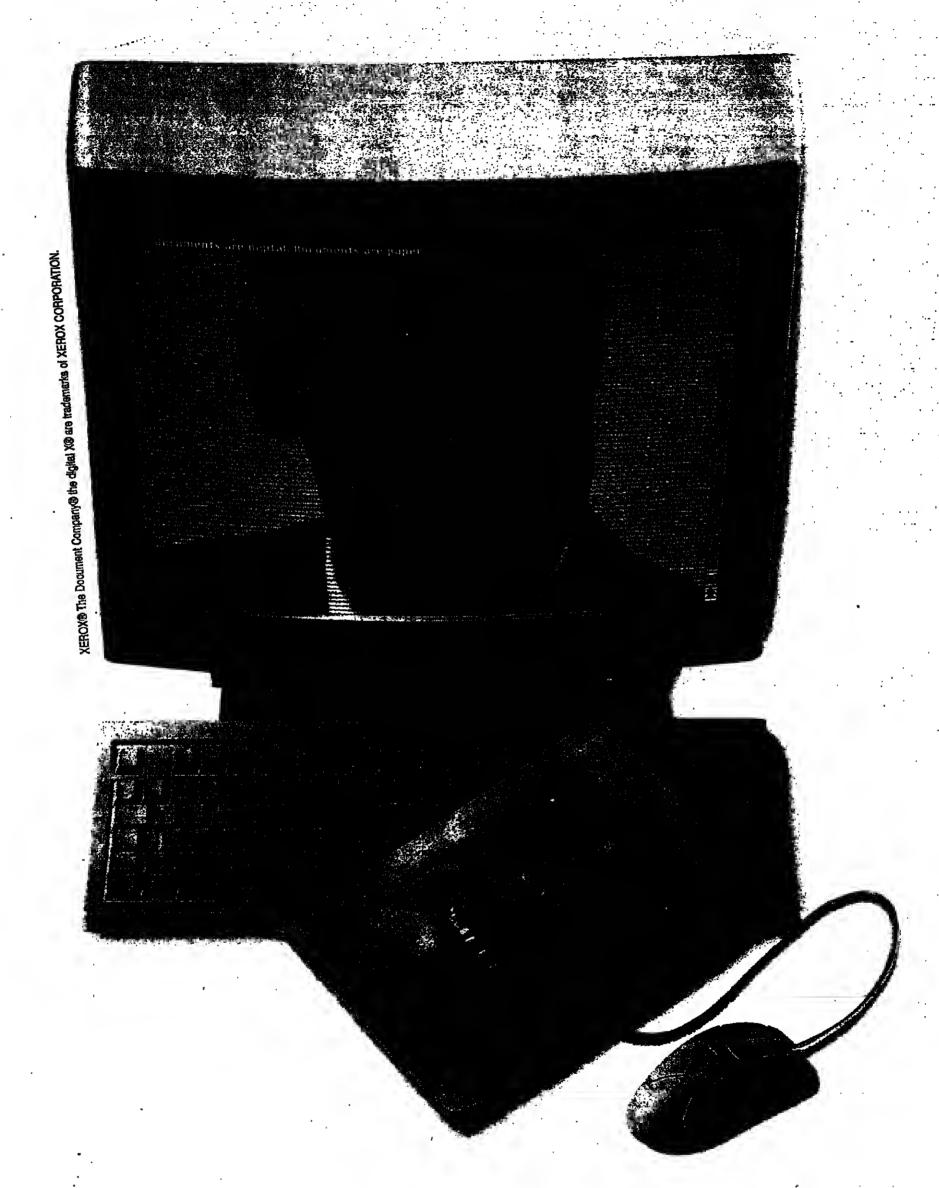
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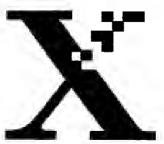
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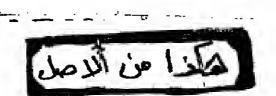
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The conductor Simone Young, taking a break during rehearsals for the Royal Opera production of La Traviata which opens tonight at the Royal Albert Hall, in London. Young, an Australian, became only the third woman to conduct for the Royal Opera when she made her debut with the company in 1994 Photograph: Laurie Lewis

Cerebral palsy man wins action

A MAN whose intelligeoce has been locked inside his useless body since his hirth 25 years ago won a High Court negligence action against a health authority today.

Daniel Leech, of Badgeworth, Chelteoham, cannot speak, is wheelchair-bound and has no useful movements of his arms because of the cerebral palsy that developed after he was born at Cheltenham maternity hospital. His only means operated computer and speech. synthesiser.

But Mr Leech's high intelligence remains in tact, his QC Buckley in London:

Open your ears,

read the Independent on Friday.

The judge, ruling on liability, found that a breach of duty by Gloucestershire Health Authority was to blame for Mr Leech's plight. Severe oxygen starvation, which arose 15-20 minutes before Mr Leech's birth by Caesarean section, was caused by an "ill-advised" attempt at delivery by forceps after a labour that had run for

too long. Afterwards, a smiling Mr Leech, accompanied by his parof communication is by a foot- ents, Ian, 56, and Janet, 52, issued a statement saving that the three-and-a-half years of litigatinn had been a great strain. I the comedienne Dawn French.

John Grace told Mr Justice the rest of my life in as normal spondents voted for their fathers. a way as possible," he said.

Chris Evans wins vote for ministry of youth

CHRIS EVANS, the enfant ter- Evans was small - just 600 rible of British broadcasting, young people, aged between 12 would make the best govern- and 25 were polled. The samment minister for youth, ac- ple was not weighted according cording to a survey of young people.

top DJ because he wanted Fridays off, narrowly pipped Richard Branson for the post in a poll conducted for the Industrial Society. The radio presenter Tim Vincent was the third most popular choice, followed by Prince William, Johnny Vaughan, presenter of The Big Breakfast, the Radio 1 DJ Zoe Ball, and "Hopefully. I can now live | A significant proportion of re-

The vote that swung it for

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to age, class, region or sex. The exercise followed a much The man fired as Radio 1's more rigorous testing of opinion last year when the society published results of its 2020 Vision

poll of 10,000 young Britons the most comprehensive survey of its kind ever conducted. A spokesperson for the society said: "We are not standing up and saying this is a nationally representative poll .. This should provoke debate. But

important, namely that young people want representation." Leading article, page 16

the message behind the poll is

Nurses worked illegally at high-security hospital

By Glenda Cooper Social Affairs Correspondent

NURSES at a high-security hospital where some of Britain's most dangerous patients are housed have been working ille-

gally, it was revealed yesterday. As many as 16 nurses at the troubled Ashworth Special Hospital - at present the subject of a public inquiry - had failed to re-register with their regulating body, the UK Central Couocil for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting. Some patients at Ashworth - m Maghuli, Merseyside - were

also being detained illegally. A spokesman for the council said the case was "potentially very dangerous" and a spokesman for the hospital said it was "serious" but that the situation had been remedied and all nurses were now registered.

Yesterday, a spokesman for the hospital said that patient care was not jeopardised by the up to date."

lapse, and that it involved a handful of nurses out of the 900 employed, However, one ward manager has since been demoted as a result of the

The spokesman said systems for detecting such failings were now in place and the public should be reassured that the problem had been addressed several months ago. "Patients are at minimum risk to themselves and no risk to the staff or the wider public."

Central Council said: "Any nurses practising without effective registration are by definition not subject to the council's standards.

"There is an onus on the individual to make sure they are un to date with their registration but there is also an oous on the employers as well to ensure there is a system in place to ensure that staff are

Ashworth - whose most notorious patient is lan Brady, the Moors Murderer - has been under scrutiny since January 1997 State for Health, Stephen Dorrell, ordered an independent inquiry into the hospital over allegations involving pornography, drugs and paedophilia - particularly why a girl

of eight was allegedly allowed

to play with a sex offender. The inquiry was told yesterday that Ashworth did not have A spokesman for the UK a policy governing child visitors. Richard Backhouse, head of social work practices since February 1994, said the formulation of such a policy was "not high

on people's agenda". Mr Backhouse said he did not know why the recommendations of a Home Office and Department of Health leaflet published in 1991 giving guidelines for working with children had not been adopted at Ashworth. Nor did he know exact-

ly what procedures were followed when Peter Hemming, a convicted paedophile, was allowed a home visit to the father when the then Secretary of of Child A, the young girl at the centre of the paedophile allegations within the hospital's personality disorder unit.

Referring to the vetting of visitors, Mr Backhouse said: With hindsight I think we would have looked at it differently. At the time we were trying to put some structure into

"People were coming in who shouldn't have and people were being turned away who were perfectly safe."

Mr Backhouse told the inquiry he was kept in the dark about the concerns of nurses oo the personality disorder unit. and was unaware that one of his principal social workers had been commissioned to work on an investigation into the admittance of Child A on to the unit's Lawrence Ward.

Lecturers driven abroad by short research contracts

By Ben Russell Education Correspondent

SOME of Britain's brightest research brains may be forced abroad or out of universities altogether because they cannot get a permanent job, lecturers said yesterday.

Union leaders coodemned vice-chaocellors for putting four out of ten academics, including more than 450 university professors, on to temporary cootracts.

They warned academics were being forced to "dumb down", sacrificing valuable long-term pure research for easy studies which could fit into a three-, six- or twelvemooth contract.

A joint union survey found nearly 54,000 out of universities' 126,000 teaching and research staff were only offered shortterm jobs. Leaders of the eight unions representing university staff said job insecurity was

creating stress and damaging vi-

tal research and teaching work.

In some cases research staff had been through as many as three contracts a year. The vast majority of staff on short-term contracts are researchers, where temporary appointments account for 95 per cent of staff. But the latest available figures show oearly one in five mainstream lecturers were temporary

and six per cent of professors. Universities argue temporary appointments give them flexi-

bility to deal with uncertain funding arrangements.

But David Triesman, geoeral secretary of the Association of University Teachers, said: "If quite different to five or ten years ago. Then they would have been bursting to talk to you about the breakthroughs they were making. Now they tell you how many weeks they have left on their contracts.

"It's harder and harder to io UK research universities. courses." There's a much clearer understanding in the States that research takes a long time." He blamed short-term research funding and vice-chancellors' fear of budget cuts.

Amanda Hart, of the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education, which represents staff in the new universities, said: "A lot you talk to researchers today it's of people are on one-year contracts and every year they have the uncertainty about whether their job is going to be renewed. They find they can't get mortgages and they can't get loans. Contracts also affect their work because people can't commit themselves to longkeep really good research teams term plans like developing

> The Deariog report into higher education, published last year, also warned that increasing use of short-term contracts could hit the quality of courses and research.

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Nuclear issue is back on the world agenda

By Rupert Comwell

THE announcement yesterday by India's Prime Minister, Atal Behari Vajpayee, that it conducted three nuclear tests is an abrupt and brutal reminder that, despite the end of the Cold War and the approval two years ago of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, nuclear weapons are very much alive, coveted

and dangerous. The immediate probable consequence of the decision will be to catapult the nuclear-testing issue right to the top of the agenda for this weekend's G8 summit in Birming-

Almost certainly too, it pushes back the day when the CTBT, endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly in September 1996, becomes

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fully operational. In the longer term, however, it could put pressure nn the five acknowledged nuclear powers of Britain, France, Russia, the US and China, to rid themselves of the weapons entirely.

Although it has been signed by 149 countries, and ratified by 13 including Britain and France last month, the treaty will not

nfficial jargon - until it has been ratified by all 44 countries which possess nuclear weapons or nuclear reactors which could be used to build such weapons.

But North Korea, Pakistan and India - which has described the CTBT as "a charade" because the five acknowledged powers were not giving up their weapons have refused to sign it. Thus two nf the three "threshold nuclear" powers, assumed to have nuclear weapons or be capable of assembling one at short notice, have refused to sign, while the third, Israel, (which has signed) is believed tn possess

between 100 and 200 warheads. As for North Korea's programme, its stage of development is unclear, but urgent US-led efforts are under way to

contain it, bargaining economic aid for public scrutiny of North Korean installations.

No such leverage is available with India, whose ruling BJP Hindu nationalist party fought the March election on a specific platform of keeping the nuclear option open.

Reactions by prominent In-

pride and achievement:

Two German girls with mushroom clouds painted on their faces at a protest against French nuclear testing in the Pacific Photograph: AP

> "It's wonderful ... f'm speechless," said the former defence minister Raja Ramanna, while an ex-ambassador to Pakistan, Jyotindra Nath Dixit, hailed them as "a decisive test to ensure strategic security."

Neither remark suggests that India will meekly follow the example of France, which signed the CTBT after President Jacques Chirac in 1995 and 1996 carried nut a bitterly contested but "final" series of tests at Mururoa atoll in the South Pacific. Nor does India's inngstanding vow not to commit itself to ending nuclear tests while Pakistan retains the technology tn build a nuclear weapon leave much room for тапоенчте.

Above all though, the timing of the announcement underlines the assertiveness of the nationalist-led government ft has acted in the full awareness that the tests will undermine the campaign of the world's second most populous country for a permanent seat on the UN Security Council.

It has chosen a moment just a few months ahead of an important visit tn Delhi by President Bill Clinton, designed to inject warmth intn long cool relatinns betweeo Washingtno and the regional superpower of South Asia.

Given the current US preoccupation with ouclear proliferation, the White House reaction of "deep disappointment" was utterly predictable.

Indeed, Mr Clintoo may now prefer to put the trip off

Delhi's intransigence leaves the international community with few options. Economic sanctions are nne possibility. and theoretically could be triggered by recent congressinual legislation, which gives Mr Clintoo 30 days tn impose them against a country which conducts a nuclear test. The White its hand, but sanctinns in any

reinforced a sense of national case could be imposed at a CTBT review conference in 1999. Experts doubt they would have much effect.

The real worry is that Pakistan might retaliate by carrying out a test of its own - or. worst of all, that China, which has signed up, would resume testing. Such a step would probably wreck the treaty, and turn the much-feared nuclear escalation in Asia intn fact.

India's move is a direct response to Pakistan's recent testing of a surface-to-surface missile able to carry a nuclear warhead and hit targets 1.000

Nnt that the CTBT is entirely toothless. Whatever hap-pens, it will establish a worldwide system of monitoring stations employing hydro-acoustic, seismological and radiationsensing equipment able to pick up a nuclear explosioo of one kilnton or more anywhere in the

But India's provocative tim- . ing may have been quite deliberate. Its main motive for retaining the nuclear option is the belief it will ensure security against two traditionally hostile neighbours to the north-west and north-east.

But, as Dan Plesch of the disarmament group Basic contends, " the condemnation of the established ouclear powers only exposes the basic hypocrisy nf the Big Five - of us saying to other countries 'Do as we say, not as we do.'

Five weeks ago Robin Cook the Fnreign Secretary, bailed Britain's ratification of CTBT as proof of its "commitment to. the goal of a ouclear-weapon free world."

In reality, however, Britain's nuclear deterrent was excluded. from consideration at last year's strategic defence review initiated by the incoming Labour government. Hence India's argument that until existing nuclear weapons powers renounce them, they have no moral right House last night was not tipping to insist other countries do not seek to acquire them.

dians yesterday nnly underhow the tests had



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Worn wires found in Boeing fuel lines.

ABOUT half the older Boeing possibility of fire nr an explo 737 aircraft inspected for wiring damage under an emergency nrder by the United States Federal Aviation Administration have unticeable wear and tear, FAA administrator Jane Garvey said yesterday.

"As of this morning we've got about 47 inspections in ... about 50 per cent are showing some signs of abrasions," Ms Garvey said in an interview on NBC's Today Show.

Last Sunday, the FAA ordered 737s with more than 50,000 flight hours to stay on the ground until electrical wires in the fuel tanks were inspected and repairs made to prevent the

sinn. The FAA ordered the immediate inspections after finding new cases of damage to the wires that carry high voltage power to fuel pumps.

Kil

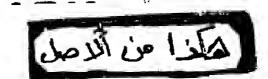
Attention has been no fueltank ignition sources since the 1996 crash of a TWA 747 near New York which killed all 230 people on board when fuel-tank vapours apparently exploded. While the exact cause of the crash is still being investigated. it has triggered research and regulation affecting an ever-widen ing range of aircraft models and manufacturers. Ms Garvey assured passengers flying yesterday that all 737s in the air were safe.

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'Sinner' Estrada wins over hearts of Filipino poor

in Manila

WHEN President Bill Clinton arrived in the Philippines two years ago his security men spotted a large man sporting an Elivis Presley hair style lurching towards the presidential aircraft. Quick off the mark, they blocked his path. The large man was outraged, "I'm the Vice-President," he protested. Yesterday, that man declared himself the winner of the presidential poll, even though voting was still under way.

Joseph "Erap" Estrada may not look like a president or vicepresident to United States security aides hut he looks every bit the saviour to the poor in the Philippines, who make up the overwhelming majority of the population.

They are not bothered that he claims election victory before the votes are counted, or gets muddled by long sentences and would never have got into the mess facing President Clinton over sexual encounters with women_

Their man does not hide things such as womanising. "The people like the fact that he's the only candidate who's not a hypocrite," said Ronaldo Zamora, one of Erap's key campaign managers.

Erap - a nickname derived from the Filipino word for buddy - regards his love of women as an asset, indeed one of his best-known mistresses was out on the campaign trail with him.

His aides say he is now off alcohol. If true, sales of Johnnie Walker Blue Label must have slumped in the Philippines. There must also be distress in the casino industry which is reported to have lost a high-rolling client.

Will his lifestyle stop Erap winning the election? The

Catholic Bishops Conference, a highly influential body, made a last-ditch attempt to thwart his

"Vote for persons who morally, intellectually and physically show themselves capable of inspiring the whole nation towards a hopeful future," said the bishops in a pastoral letter issued on Sunday. They did not need to say so hut their appeal was a clear cry for the people to vote for anyone but Erap. But it looks as though it will fall on deaf ears.

Mr Estrada has struck a cord with the mass of the people who are struggling to make ends meet and have recently found that struggle even harder as the Philippines was hit by the tidal wave of the Asian financial crisis. Why will you vote for Erap? I have asked all sorts of people during this campaign. "Erap para sa mahirap," they invariably replied, echoing the campaign slogan of "Erap for the poor".

Yesterday, in the Tondo district of Manila, which used to be notorious for the vast rubhish dump known as Smoky Mountain where most of the people lived, voters crowding into polling stations were even shunning their local hero Alfredo Lim, who is also standing for president, "Erap is for us," said one old woman as an enthusiastic crowd gathered and nodded in agreement.

They see Mr Estrada as the only candidate who speaks their language and really cares about them. His critics and the intellectuals who are appalled by the thought of an Estrada presidency say that what they really see is the movie matinee idol who became a politician three decades ago but left an indelihle impression on the national psyche by portraying the hero

The plot of these highly popular films was simple -Erap, the bulky, heavily moustached man from the streets would be pitted against a rich and more powerful opponent, vet, in his simple way, managed to defeat the big guy.

Theresa Erercito, one of his many daughters, insists that Mr Estrada's supporters no longer view him as a movie star. "They admire what he has done for the people," she insisted, "what he has achieved in government."

It is true that Erap became successful mayor of San Juan, a suburb of Manila, but it is hard to point to any success he had either as a senator or as vicepresident. In the senate he was hest known for sleeping during its interminable meetings. As vice-president, be headed a crime-busting unit which drew a very thin line between fighting crime and behaving in an unlawful way towards suspects.

Once President Fidel Ramos pushed his deputy out of this unit. he gave him nothing else to do and treated him with contempt. Erap's revenge is likely to emerge when the votes are counted and Jose de Venecia, the candidate backed by President Ramos, is spurned.

However, Philippine elections are known neither for their sobriety nor their certainty. Mr Estrada is facing a mighty machine under Mr de Venecia's command. That machine might prove better at getting out the

If it does not, stand by for a very different style of government. President Ramos, the workaholic who rises at dawn, will be replaced by Mr Estrada who is not at best in the hours of daylight and happily admits that he will leave all the bothersome details of governof the poor on the silver screen. ment to a hig team of advisers.



'Erap' Estrada, who speaks the language of the poor not the language of government

Photograph: Bullit Marquez/AP

Hungary left considers pact

HUNGARY'S hard-pressed So cialists decided yesterday to step up their general election campaign to stay ahead of an emerging right but did not exclude the possibility of a broad coalition.

"In politics nothing can be ruled out," Socialist Prime Minister Gyula Horo said after a meeting of the party's presidium. "It is very important to preserve stability and the country's ability to operate."

The Socialists gained 32.25 per cent of the vote in Sunday's first round but their coalition partner Free Democrats fell below 8 per cent while second place Fidesz shot up to 28.2 per cent. The agrarian Smallholders rose sharply to 13.8 per cent and the far-right Hungarian Justice and Life Party scored 5.5 per cent, to enter parliament for the first time. Reuters, Budapest

Italy murders

A GAMBLER suspected of murdering women travelling alone on trains is being investigated for more than 20 other killings on the Italian Riviera from 1993. Prosecutors said they were looking into all unsolved murders in the area for links to the suspect, Donato Bilancia.

Bilancia, 47, was arrested last week in Genoa in connection with the two train killings. Investigators later said he was a suspect in the deaths of four prostitutes and two security

Somali clashes

AT LEAST 14 people died and 25 were wounded in fresh fighting on Sunday and Monday between rival Somali factions around the southern port of Kismayu, witnesses said.

General Mohamed Saeed Hirsi Morgan's Majertein clan was reported to have made further advances to the north and yesterday captured Kansuma, on the road to Mogadishu, after heavy clashes with the Marehan clan. Local reports said that he casualties were mainly among militiamen from both Reuters, Mogadishu

Rwanda party

RWANDANS sought release yesterday from the threat of death and economic hardship as they danced in homage to reggae legend Bob Marley whose message of peace and unity has found fertile ground in the central African nation. Some 7,000 young people who gathered on the Nyamirambo soccer field to commemorate the 17th anniversary of the Jamaican's death.

PHILIPPINE POLLS – ANY EXCUSE FOR A PARTY

stations in the Philippines? Follow the paper trail. each sub-district. Inside voters face the arduous Mounds of discarded leaflets litter the streets in front of the stations, which are festooned with flags. for every post, from president to city councillor. and posters bearing candidates' names.

It looks more like a fiesta than an election day. "Flections are like feast days or Christmas," said Father Ferdinand Hernando, one of the many poll watchers trying to keep the poll clean. "It's part of the Philippine culture to make a feast out of everything, even funerals," he added with a smile.

Most polling stations are in schools where every the long count will take even more time.

HOW do you find one of the 174,374 polling classroom is transformed into a voting station for task of writing down the names of 30 candidates The voting booths are cardboard boxes balanced on the knees of electors. There are no printed lists of candidates on the forms.

Counting is done laboriously by tellers calling out the names on the slips one by one to a team marking them off on big lists. The 'quick' count in this election will take 10 days to complete while

Kinkel makes aid immigration issue

By Imre Karacs

n wires found

eing fuel ling

IN AN election race increasingly inspired by fear and loathing of foreigners, Germany's Foreign Minister, Klaus Kinkel, leapt to the head of the field yesterday with an imaginative plan to punish the Third World. African and Asian countries resisting the repatriation of their citizens should, he suggested, be deprived of aid.

Mr Kinkel outlined the plan, to be written into the election

manifesto of his Free Democrat Party, in an interview with the tabloid Bild Zeitung. "It cannot go on that some countries block the deportation of their door from immigration officials. own citizens from Germany."

the Foreign Minister said. "When countries fail to cooperate in this area, they must be made aware of the possible consequences: reduction or withdrawal of foreign aid."

Eighteen countries in Africa are said to be guilty of hindering the German clear-out, including Ghana, Nigeria, Togo,

Gamhia. Bangladesh and famine-ravaged Sudan. Germany has 270,000 asylum-seekers awaiting the knock on the

An estimated 70,000 come from Mr Kinkel's hit-list, constituting less than 0.1 per cent of Germany's population, while a further 9,000 are believed to have arrived from Africa and Asia. The latter group cannot be repatriated because they had taken the precaution of burning their passports, and will not

tell Germans where "home" is.

Although black and Asian people are anything but visible, confined as they are to detention centres and refugee homes, they have a high profile in German media reports dealing with crime, and jibes at their expense play well at election rallies. Apart from the Greens, no party is will-

ing to speak up on their behalf. After elections last month in the Land of Saxony-Anhalt, where the racist German People's Union swept up 13 per cent of Kohl's coalition renewed its interest in the threats and inconveniences posed by foreigners.

Until yesterday, Mr Kohl's Bavarian allies, the Christian Social Union, led the way with calls for the repatriation of entire families where one juvenile is caught shoplifting. Mr Kinkel has now trumped that with his plan, to the irritation of his Bavarian colleagues. The Minister for Development Aid, Carl-Dieter Spranger, who is a member of the CSU, was quick the vote, Chancellor Helmut to protest yesterday at not hav-

Where world debt takes away the lives of children

THERE was not a single cloud in the expansive blue African ters of the grey-green Zambezi River could be seen only 50 yards off. The great silence was punctuated only by the song of hirds and the occasional bellow of a hippopotamus.

As we walked into the clinic the staff were, with proud anxiety, raising a World Bank flag. Perhaps white faces could only mean to them that the funders had arrived.

It was a splendid new hospital, with walls of baked mud and a shiny new roof. The only thing was that it had no beds. And cuts in the Zambian health budget meant that the number of doctors had been halved and

the drugs cupboard was bare. A pretty girl with long dark braided hair, wearing a dusty maroon and brown print dress, stood barefoot before the admissions table. She was aged about four. Her mother, a tall

Paul Vallely looks at the people who sky. Through the trees, the wa- have most to gain from the G8 summit

> stately figure whose poverty seemed only to enhance her dignity, spoke anxiously to the

Suddenly the child retched violently and spewed a stream of vomit all over her mother and the medic. She was, a doctor diagnosed, in the grip of the lat-. ter stages of malaria. "This is a very sick little girl," he said.

It may have been too late to save her in any case. We would never know. The clinic had no anti-malaria drugs. She was given paracetamol and taken away to die.

It was a routine event. Later I met a doctor at another clinic who said that the mouthly box of drugs which clinics receive from the Ministry of Health usually lasts only a fort-

The health budget is just one area in which extensive "adjustments" to the budget have been made under an IMFbacked programme to belp Zambia find enough money to pay the interest on its debts to the rich world - a world whose leaders meet at the G8 summit in Birmingham to discuss Third World Debt this weekend. Such programmes are in operation all over the Africa. Today, Zambia spends three times as much pay-

spends on healthcare. That is not all. At the behest of the Western creditor governments, the Zambian health service has been reorganised along the purchaser/provider system which has caused such controversy in the British NHS.

ing interest on its debts as it



the complaints. "There are 100 many managers and not enough doctors," one medic told me, from the 80-bed Chikuni mission hospital, which under the restructuring has been told to downgrade itself to a bealth centre and send its doctors nearly 200 miles to the nearest official hospital.

Fees have been introduced. Fees for hospital registration. fees for each blood test, and more fees for the medicine.

As a result, one survey- financed by the Catholic aid So there is a familiar air to agency Cafod - has shown that

in Lusaka the number of outpatients has dropped by twothirds since fees were introduced. Infant mortality, once di-

minishing, is on the increase. Today one child in five dies before its fifth birthday. According to the IMF there

are supposed to be waivers for the poor. In theory. In practice some hospitals refuse to administer them; others make them so complicated that the poor are too bemused to apply.

In any case there is not always time. In a village near Lisutu recently an eight-monthold baby developed malaria. It took her parents two days to raise the 3,000 kwacha in hospital fees.

Eventually they collected it by going round relatives and friends and then walked for three hours to the hospital. The child died in her mother's arms at the hospital gate: 3,000 kwacha is 1.02 peuce.



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Japanese film reopens Chinese war wounds

CHINA has been infuriated by a Japanese film which Peking accuses of "whitewashing aggressioo and singing the praises" of Hideki Tojo, Japan's wartime prime minister. who was executed for war crimes

Pride - the Fateful Moment, premiered for the Japanese media on Friday, immediately prompted an outcry from the Chinese government, including a lengthy "commentary" oo the main evening television news lamhasting the Japanese producers.

China was "shocked and indignant" at the film, said the China Daily yesterday, accusing it of "distorting historical facts" and depicting charges against Japanese troops of war crimes "as almost frame-ups based on hearsay evi-dence and over-statement". The film portrays the trial and last days of Tojo, who was prime minister the Pacific war.



China's depiction of its own recent past offers a less than honest portrayal of events including the Great Leap Forward famine, the Cultural Revolutioo, and the Tiananmen Square massacre, but that has never stopped Peking from lecturing Tokyo on the oeed for the Japanese to "have a correct view of history".

Japan's failure to provide China with a fulsome apology for wartime atrocities between its 1937 invasion and 1945 represents a constant irfrom 1941 to 1944. At his trial, he ritant for Peking, and any attempt accepted responsibility for starting by right-wing Japanese to play down the country's war crimes results in idence, and a just verdict was to justify the crimes and atrocities.

angry protests from Peking. Japan's war crimes included the Nanking Massacre and the infamous medicalexperiment centre in Manchuria.

The foreign-ministry spokesman.

Zhu Bangzao, said the new film whitewashed the history of Japanese aggression against China. "Such an act is bound to be

strongly condemned by people who face up to history and love peace, including the Japanese people." Mr Zhu said.

"The crimes committed by the Japanese troops are proved by a mass of iron-clad and irrefutable ev- peters in present Japan are trying

reached by the international community long ago. Hideki Tojo was the chief criminal of that war of aggression," he added. The film was hased in part on the writings of Tojo's grand-daughter.

Smo-Japanese relations remain dogged by history, despite massive Japanese investment over the past 20 years.

Chinese children are regularly marched through the museum at Marco Polo Bridge, in the southwestern Peking suburbs, which catalogues Japanese wartime atrocities. The Marco Polo Bridge "incident" on 7 July 1937, when Chinese and Japanese troops clashed, sparked the full-scale Japanese invasioo.

Last July the Chinese propaganda machine put great effort into marking both the 60th anniversary of the Japanese invasioo of China and the 25th anniversary of the resumption of diplomatic ties. The People's Daily, mouthpiece

of the Communist Party, thundered: "Some frantic militarist trum-



Fiction and fact: Tojo's trial in the film (above), and the actual hearing (left)

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US drags Bibi back to the table

By Mary Dejevsky n Washington

> TALKS between the US and Israel on removing obstacles to the next stage of the Middle East peace process will resume in Washingtoo tomorrow, at a meeting between the Israeli prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, and the US Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright. The meeting was announced less than 24 hours after the failure of talks between Mr Netanyahu and the US special envoy, Dennis Ross, and the cancellation of vesterday's planned summit betweeo Presideot Bill Clinton, Mr Netanyahu and the Palestinian

leader, Yasser Arafat. The announcement of new talks, which came in the face of the most serious rift between the US and Israel since the founding of the state of Israel 50 years ago, seemed designed to keep bope of agreement alive and quash speculation that the US role in the Middle East peace process might be over. The Israeli prime minister, however, had planned to be in the US for a private visit, anyway, so the meeting may turn out to be lit-

tle more than a formality. Officially, Washingtoo still appears to believe that Mr Netanvahu will come round to accepting a modified form of the US condition for a summit: agreement to hand over the next 13 per cent of West Bank territory to Palestinian authority, as stipulated in the 1993 Oslo accords. Such a summit could even be rescheduled for

the end of the month. But no one in Washington was even trying to pretend that vesterday's cancelled summit was other than a setback. It was, according to White House spokesman, Mike McCurry, "a measure of the degree of complexity of the issues and a measure of the disagreement that still exists among the parties".

Among regional specialists in Washington, there was agreement that prospects for a new meeting do not look good. So far, despite repeated efforts over more than a year, Washington has proved unable to exert sufficient pressure or offer sufficient inducement to Israel to secure Israeli commitment to the terms already agreed in the Oslo accords. Even the considerable diplomatic brinkmanship of the past weekend had no effect. The most powerful country in the world appeared powerless to deal with its staunchest ally in one of the most volatile regions of the world.

Mr Netanyahu, moreover, has suffered not a wit from its defiance; his domestic popu-

larity has only risen. There are also reports of personal tension. even anger, on Mr Netanyahu's part with the stance taken by the US and represented by Mr Ross, a development that could make an eveotual rapprochement more difficult.

In the past, Mr Clinton has coupled strong words with almost limitless patience, and this appeared to be his gamble yesterday: that Israel would eventually. perhaps with additional US security guarantees for some of the more sensitive land to be ceded, accept the terms on offer.

Some hazarded that the US could apply further pressure by threatening to delay exports of sensitive military equipment or limit intelligence-sharing. But the bulk of the \$3bn (£1.87bn) of US aid to Israel anoually depends on Congress, out on the President, and Con-



Benjamin Netanyahu: Due in the US for a private visit

Others suggested that Mr Clinton could make public the small print of US terms for agreement between the Israelis and the Palestinians, demonstrate the "reasonableness" of the proposals, and challenge Mr Netanyahu to come up with an alternative. This would be denounced in Congress, however, where 81 Senators last month signed an open letter to Mr Clinton appealing to him not to make the terms public.

According to one view in Washington, however, Mr Clinton's hand is not as weak as it may look, thanks to a combination of circumstances in the Middle East and at home, and there may be virtue to waiting. So long as there is no new flareup of terrorist violence in Israel and the occupied territories. Mr Netanyahu's hrandishing of the security threat and forecasts of ali-out war, will look less convincing. With relations between the US, on the one hand, and Iran and Iraq, on the other, now looking less tense. Washington's regional need for Israel is also minished, albeit temporarily.

Leading article, page 16

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drags i back the table



The motor trade might not be the first place you would look to find a group of males discussing the things that get them down at work and home. It's a healthy trend - but will it catch on? By Peter Baker

A SMALL room above a workshop on an scribes how he wants to put more energy industrial estate near Tunbridge Wells probably sounds an unpromising place to try to help a group of men develop greater selfawareness and inter-personal skills. Also, these men are definitely not new-agey types into tree-hugging or sweat lodges, but

regular blokes working in the motor industry. Hardly a week goes by without another instalment in the "Men in Trouble" story. Last week, a NSPCC conference on Men as Fathers heard that many men are struggling to balance work with family life, with many feeling obliged to hide their involvement with children from their colleagues. And a survey of 1,000 office workers showed that 82 per cent of men hate working for a woman - tricky when female managers have increased by 60 per cent since 1994.

But at the MCL Group, a car importing, distribution and marketing company, they know about these things. Ten men, all junior managers in their 20s and 30s, have volunteered to join Navigator, a unique workplace-based personal development programme for men run by The Springboard Consultancy. This is the second of four one-day training sessions. Downstairs, the latest shiny and sporty Mazdas are being lovingly inspected by men in overalls. Upstairs, in the training room, their colleagues, mostly dressed in jeans and trainers, are exploring how to cope with change, better understand body language and improve their listening skills.

There is, of course, plenty of banter. When the facilitator, James Traeger, explains that everyone has a "personal zone" extending up to 46cm from their body, he is told "you must have a hig 'un". When asked about goals, David suggests: "I might try lager rather than bitter tonight." with: "That's just one dump." Traeger reminds the group that they discussed banter and agreed it was acceptable so long as it did not turn into put-downs. But the joking is sporadic and good-humoured and does not inhibit discussion of serious issues.

Listening is a key topic in the afternoon session. Traeger begins by asking the men to work in pairs. One man has to talk about something that interests him while the other pretends to be bored or indifferent. The aim is to demonstrate how hard it is to communicate when you are being ignored. Tracger then explains that when people talk they are communicating three things: thoughts, feelings and intentions. To demonstrate this, the men are divided into small groups. Each man talks for five minutes while his colleagues observe and then discuss.

The subjects would amaze anyone who still believes most men are incapable of reflecting on little besides sport, beer and politics. David talks openly about the effects on his life of surviving a serious car crash and, soon after, a life-threatening case of testicular cancer. James (not Traeger) de- are weird or wacky. Indeed, the programme

into his family life, while Andy speaks of his doubts about marriage and how difficult that is for his girlfriend.

Traeger moves on to other key themes. He explains how men can cope better with the feelings engendered by change (which range from shock and denial to anger and depression), take risks at work and in their personal lives and adopt new ways of learning. The day ends with a goal-setting exercise for the next session in four week's time.

A recurring issue, and one that explains why these men chose to join Navigator, is that they feel in a rut at work and that, despite decent salaries and subsidised sports cars, their jobs seem to be going nowhere. Several explain that their work has become very specialised, making it hard to move within the company, and, because there are no similar firms in the local area, changing employers would require difficult life-changes.

This sense of dissatisfaction with work resonates with many men's experience of the contemporary workplace. The end of the job for life, the replacement of manufacturing with service industries, the flattening of traditional hierarchies, the increasingly important role of women and the demand

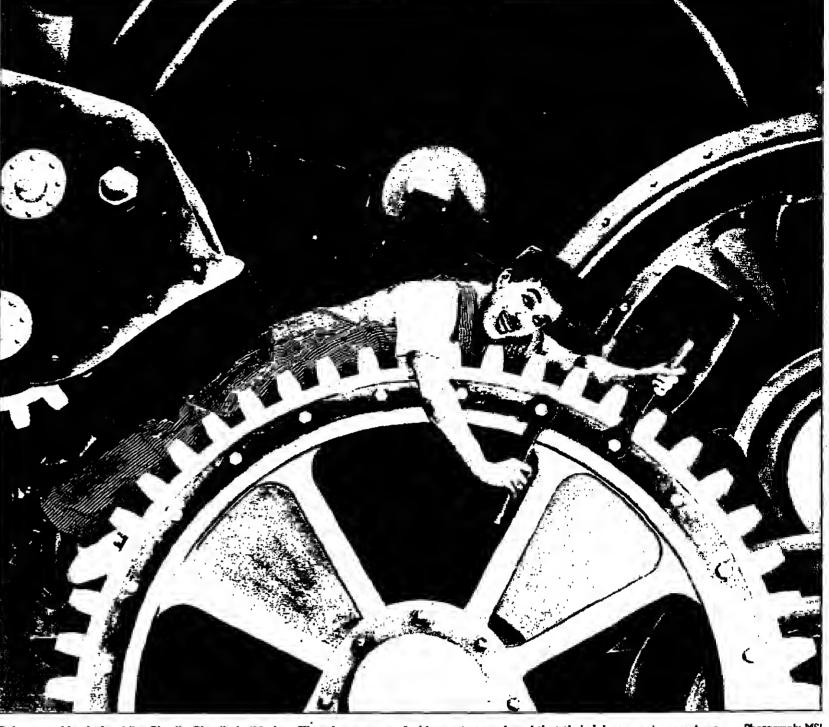
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The programme refuses to accept that men are inherently hopeless and. attempts to help them adapt to changing times

for new "feminine" skills, such as communication, teamwork and flexibility, are fundamentally altering men's relationship with work, profoundly affecting their sense of identity and self-esteem.

Navigator aims to help men deal better with these issues. While many commentators bemoan contemporary masculinity, this programme refuses to accept that men are inherently hopeless and is one of a few attempts to help men adapt to the changing times. "It's about giving men a sense of direction, enabling them to take responsibility for themselves and extending their skills," explains Tracger. "Navigator examines male identity and values, explores relationships with women, provides an opportunity for realistic self-assessment and develops interpersonal abilities. It's not about creating 'new men'; it's about helping men develop their own solutions."

As MCL's interest in Navigator suggests. it is not intended to appeal to firms which



Going round in circles: Like Charlie Chaplin in 'Modern Times', many men feel in a rut at work and that their jobs are going nowhere

has already been piloted with a banking group, four local authorities, a telecommunications company and a university and is due to be formally hunched this summer. Traeger is already discussing introducing the programme to several government departments and Navigator will soon be marketing itself to companies as a means of creating "improved efficiency from a more realistically self-assessing male population", "better customer care from more empathic workers", and "motivated men with selfdirected learning agendas".

Sally Vansoo, MCL's human resources director, has no doubts about the value of the training." We first ran a women's development programme but then realised that our junior male managers were also The aim is to help all our employees be more fulfilled and the feedback I have had from the men so far has been positive." There have been more applications from men wanting to join Navigator than there are places available.

Whether this type of training will make a long-term difference remains to be seen. It has been argued, for example, that many men are incapable of fundamental personal change until they experience a personal trauma, such as redundancy, divorce or serious illness. One-ironic outcome of introducing such programmes could be that, instead of developing the skills of flexibility and empathy, they simply start com-peting about their ability to co-operate.

But listening to Nick tell his colleagues that he has recently become a father, is suffering from backache and no longer wants to work a 65-hour week, it does seem possible that Navigator could be one way men can develop a much-needed new sense of identity at work as well as a better balance between work and home that will ultimately benefit women and children, too.

Can Tessa Jowell turn you into a better bloke?

THE Department of Health launched its first advice booklet aimed at men yesterday. "Life Begins at 40: Health Tips for Men", is almed primarily at middleaged, working-class men. a group at particular risk of heart disease and cancer, and will be distributed through male-oriented sites, such as DIY stores and sports clubs. The booklet contains advice stress and exercise and uses "blokey" cartoon humour to get its message across.

It is a long-overdue initiative. Health pages in newspapers and magazines are full of articles on prostate cancer, impotence and falling sperm counts, and bookshops are brimming with self-help health books for men. Pick up the phone and you can talk about sexual difficulties. depression, infertility - any problem affecting the modern male. It seems men's health is more talked about than ever.

Except by the Government. In "Our Healthier Nation", the recently published blueprint for the future of public health, men's problems are conspicuous only by their absence. But, belatedly, there are now signs of change. Although Tessa Jowell, the

minister for health, rejects talk of "a crisis" in men's health, she accepts that "being a man is a cause of health inequality", and is particularly concerned about men's high levels of heart disease, stroke, lung cancer, accidents and suicide. . The minister believes the

reasons for the poor state of men's health are as yet unclear, but are probably "Men are more likely than women to take more risks with their health and less likely to seek help at the earliest possible stage," she says.

On average, men visit their GP half as often as women. Women, says the minister, "are more in touch with health services because they are more likely to take the children". She also suggests that the rise in suicides of 71 per cent in a decade among 15 to 24-yearold men could be "something to do with unemployment, a culture of hopelessness and the loss of useful roles".

She says: "We have to build initiatives to prevent III health and premature death which are relevant to men and they will be different from those which we develop for women. If we want to

reach women, we put leaflets in supermarkets, but I think we've got to be much more Imaginative about the way we reach men. Maybe information needs to go in pubs, in gyms and workplaces." Using footballers and other sports

Hence the new leaflet. . But Ms Jowell places much more emphasis on the role of (HLCs), one of the Government's big health Ideas. Funded by the National Lottery, these are intended to respond to local health needs, with a focus on diet, smoking, drinking, drug misuse and

role models could also help

get positive messages across.

physical activity. Although she is vague about how they might work with men, the minister believes they could become sites for "well-man" clinics. A recent Gallup survey suggested that three-quarters of men would like to see more of these.

Although she is not convinced of the need for a national screening programme for prostate cancer - "the evidence is highly equivocal and it's been put on the backburner" - Ms Jowell does support promoting testicular elf-examination among

younger men, Rates for testicular cancer have

doubled in the past 20 years. The Government is also commissioning research Into sperm counts, which have halved since 1940. "Some of the suggested trends are undoubtedly sinister, but it's important not to draw hasty condusions without being absolutely sure about the scientific evidence," she says.

Government Initiative already in place is CALM - the Campaign Against Living Miserably, a helpline for young men in Manchester, an area with twice the national rate of suicide. Since its launch in December, CALM has responded to more than 3,000 calls and the scheme has been extended beyond its original three-month lifespan. "We ought to look at CALM's effectiveness and see what can be applied to other parts of the country, perhaps through HLCs," says Ms Jowell. But the responsibility for

improving men's health does not just rest with politicians. If men were to campaign as women have, there is little doubt their health could be transformed.

Peter Baker

TV laughter is the best medicine



DR PHIL HAMMOND

"WHO'S the other guest?" "Patrick Moore." "Well, they won't touch him. He's a national treasure. So what have they got on you?" "I've no idea."

"You must be fucking mad."

after I'd agreed to appear on going to until Boris Johnson kindly bleated in The Spectator that it was a pre-scripted fix. If I could just get my hands on the script, cover all the angles and come out fighting. So, I agreed, on condition that they bike a copy down for me to digest in advance. I waited in all day Monday. Nothing. And Tuesday. Nothing again. Bastards.

When I arrived at the studios, I was spat at and jostled by the security staff. One knocked off

my glasses and crushed them under an orthopaedic shoe. Then Ian Hislop appeared through a cloud of dry ice in a pink crutchless tutu screaming: "Hey, ginge! We're going to dance on your grave tonight." Or it could have been: "Hello Phil, would you like a cup of tea?" On the way to

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make up, I passed Paul Merton dressed as some sort of reaper. Have I Got News For You. I wasn't He looks so nice on TV, hut when I asked to see a copy of the script, he brought his scythe down on my left arm and sliced it clean off at the elbow. Fortunately, this left me one

for the tea which, in all fairness, was thoroughly pleasant. Unfortunately, it had been spiked with the date-rape drug rohypnol. The rest of the evening is a blur. I have vague memories of the dark, shadowy images of Hislop and Merton bearing down on me from either end, while Deavton smirked and a large man with a monocle used my mid-section as a xylophone. I was discovered three weeks later in the staff toilet at Limpley Stoke Happy Eater. A tough gig, but a picnic compared with Tibs and Fibs.

Tibs and Fibs - you may remember - was a madeap medical quiz that faded out of the Channel 5 line-up a few months ago. The 26 episodes took 10 days to record, and most nights we were turning round three shows in a session. The studio audiences ranged from seven to 70 - in age and size - and there were some decidedly dodgy

rounds (eg: Dr Hilary asking is that Deayton allows contes-Craig Charles to draw the symphisis pubis on a bikini-clad model with an indelible pen).

But it was the structure that

really did for it. The captains were both doctors and we knew most of the answers. The guests weren't and didn't. So either the guests had to be pre-briefed with the correct answers ("Craig. what are mittelschmerz?" "Ooh ... I know. Is it pain in the lower abdomen experienced about midway between successive menstrual periods"). Or the questions had to be dumbed down ("Who knows a song with doctor in the title?") or the scoring had to be totally abandoned.

We went mainly for the latter - a big mistake because no matter how stupid the show, the audience care about the score. And so should the contestants.

Ian Hislop warned me at the outset of HIGNFY that we would lose. "Paul is doubly competitive. He'll start by being funniest and then when the 'odd one out round comes in, he starts concentrating on winning. But at least it gives other people the chance to crack a joke." In fact, the skill of the show

tants the space to spar whenever they want to. With only one show to record, there's all the time in the world to shine or make a complete tit of yourself. The result lasts 75 minutes but edits to 30 - not just to cut out the dead wood but to balance the contributions and damp down slander and obscenity.

As for preparation. Deayton links from an autocue. Wow. There is no script or rehearsal. You do get to see - very briefly - the video clips, odd one out and headlines two hours before kick off. This is primarily to stop. new guests soiling their pants. But all it really does is provide a structure to ad lib around.

Once the rohypnol kicked in, my contributions became ever more unpredictable, but each time Merton trumped them with something much funnier and with impeccable timing. I had captained 26 episodes of Tibs and Fibs without smiling once, and within a minute I was grinning like a village idiot. Deayton and Histop. too, are happy living off their cuffs. Take it from a doctor. These boys can improvise.

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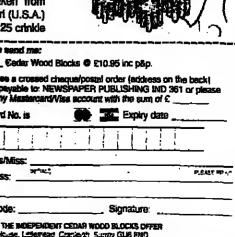
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He defied the US government. Now it must decide: has Bill Gates finally got too big for his own boots?

HISTORY may be made in Washington this week, and we are not talking about the Middle East peace process or the latest twist in Presideot Clinton's sexgate sagas. Featuring the US Justice Department and a single corporation far away on the West Coast, this is much dryer fare, with baffling buzzwords like "bundling" and "browsers". Know that that company is Microsoft, however, and you begin to guess at its impor-

Even the barely computer-literate among us understand the power of Microsoft and its mega-hilliooaire CEO, William Gates III. Its Windows operating systems are to be found in oo less than 90 per cent of all personal computers bought today. The Seattle-based behemoth has become the prime symbol of evergy and innovation io a humming US ecocomy. Because of its success, however, it is also feared.

It is that fear that may now threaten much of what Microsoft has achieved. Antitrust (or mocopoly) regulators in the Justice Department, as well as politicians in several US states, are asking themselves a highly porteotous question: is Mr Gates now presiding over a monopoly so powerful that free competition in the computer sector is being stifled? Is Microsoft, with its easy-to-use Windows technology, good news for consumers, or is it actually bad news? If the latter is the case, what is to be dooe?

Unfolding before us is a governmentvs-private-eoterprise battle of gigantic proportions that dates back to the introduction three years ago of Windows 95. In a first lunge at Microsoft, the Justice Departmeot persuaded Mr Gates to to desist from hundling into Windows a new feature called Internet Explorer, Known as a "browser", it offered users a free direct conocction to the pages of the World Wide By David Usborne

Web. It was Mr Gates' first attempt to seize primacy in the oewly-emerging Internet market and flatten others who had grasped its importance before him, ootahly Netscape Communications.

Since then, the Justice Department has accused Gates of reneging on that deal and has filed with the federal courts for an injunction against Microsoft selling any more Windows programmes with an integrated Explorer function. A ruling from the courts is oow pending and last week Microsoft filed a pre-emptive appeal.

In recent days, however, the war has be-

in the realm of public opinion, Mr Gates may be winning. Most Americans think he should be left alone

come considerably hotter, and for one principle reason: on Friday, Microsoft plans to begin shipping to PC manufacturers its sequel to Windows 95. It is Windows 98 and, needless to say, among the options that will appear on its start-up screen is Internet Explorer. Windows 98 is scheduled to be available on computer-shop shelves towards the

What has been evideot for some time is that the Justice Department and the single-minded Tsar of the Microsoft dossier, Ioel Klein, is weighing a much broader anti-

trust action against Microsoft than the one already in train. It is also clear that if the action is indeed to be launched, it probably will have to happen before Friday. There is one immediate possible consequence: a new and instant order that Explorer be stripped from Windows 98 before it is shipped. That could delay its launch by several months.

And it is oot just Mr Klein that Microsoft has to worry about. Eager to win their own starring roles in what may be the biggest anti-trust actioo since the hreakup in 1911 of Standard Oil - the Rockefeller-owned giant that held a 90 per cent share in its US market - the attorneys general of as many as 20 individual US states are also considering lawsuits against the company for monopoly behaviour.

Just how far Mr Klein might want to go in humbling Microsoft is still a matter eotirely of coojecture. While seeking its hreak-up à la Standard is an option, most observers still consider it unlikely. Forcing Gates to un-bundle Explorer would surely be a first line of attack, however. He might even seek to oblige Microsoft to make amends for past sins, for instance by actually featuring Netscape's rival browser function oo the Windows platform. As a justification, Mr Klein could point out that once Microsoft began essentially giving away its browser for free as part of Windows, Netscape's share of the Internet-connection market plunged from a high of 75 per cent to about 55 per cent

Speculation is also rife that Mr Gates will be accused simultaneously of ahusing an agreement he struck with rival Sun Microsystems to use its pioneering Java computer language oo the Windows platform. Suo has alleged that Java was conceived as a language that could be used on all types of computers, and that Microsoft, by

slightly altering its versioo of Java, has ba-fence of its practices for very many months. sically sabotaged that essential feature.

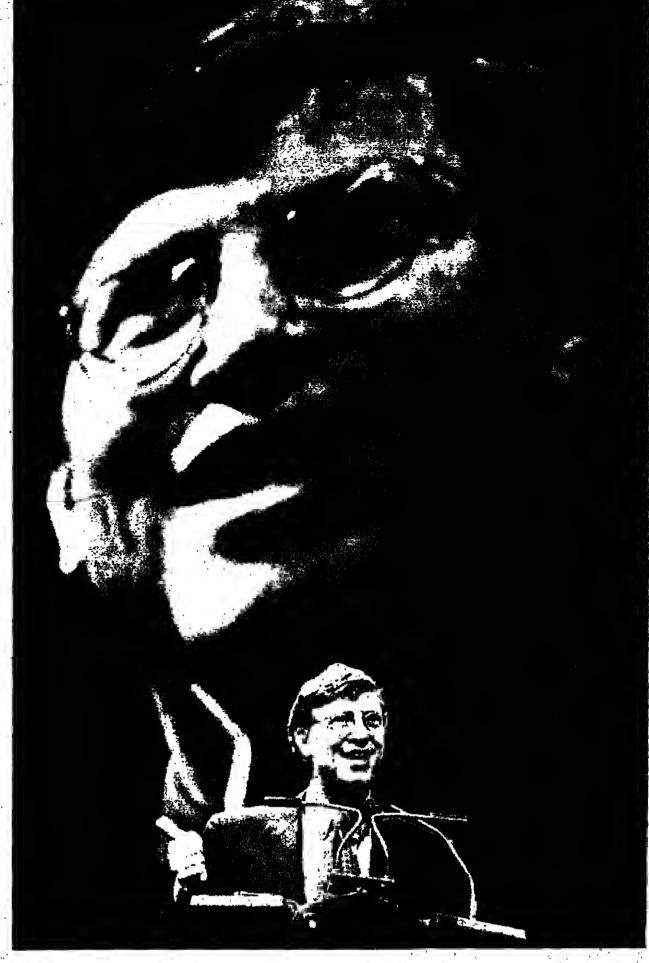
Events could, however, take a much less dramatic turn. Conceivably, Klein and Gates might yet strike an amicable settlement. It is even possible that the Justice Department and some of the attorneys general could retreat from battle, particularly if they conclude that they are on the wrong side of the philosophical argument about goverament intrusion in private enterprise.

Microsoft, needless to say, has been running a high-octane spin campaign in de-

Politicians, journalists and Klein himself have been furiously lobbied. At a rally in New York last week, Gates surrounded himself with CEOs from other computer companies all exclaiming that any delay in the release of Windows 98 could be ruinous for them and eveo for the US ecooomy at large. And in the realm of public opinion, Mr Gates may be winning. A poll commissioned by Microsoft last week suggested that most ordinary Americans think Microsoft should be left alooe. .

The enemies of Microsoft like to include in almost Biblical metaphors about the doom that a Microsoft monopoly will visit upoo us. "If it's Microsoft versus mankind," remarked Larry Ellison, the chief of Oracle. "I'm on the team of mankind." But others with faith in the free market's power of self-correction have a quite different take. If Windows is on 90 per cent of computers there is a reason: people like it.

It is a cooundrum, and this week it beloogs to Mr Klein.



INDEPENDENT



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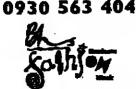
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'My mother thought Shakespeare sent me mad'

REVELATIONS

The time: 1982 The place: Small Heath, Birmingham The man: David Harewood,

I LAUGH when I walk round the National Theatre, where I am playing Othello, and look at the pictures of the famous actors in famous plays ~ I haven't heard of any of them. I am a fraud: a lark-about, mess-about kid from Birmingham who's touring the world with this great Shakespearean work. I don't know a lot about theatre because I didn't ever really want to be an

Academically, I was oever a high-flyer at Washwood Heath comprehensive school, mainly because I was the class clown. I stayed oo for sixth form because the opportunities were slim. I was being geared up for factory fodder at the local Lucas or Leyland plant, the alternative was the

I remember being phoned up by my English teacher, Mr Reader, who wanted to bave a chat. I had no idea what he wanted. He sat me down and asked the most incredible questioo: "Have you ever thought of being an actor." He thought I was a very taleoted entertainer, especially after my class took school assembly and I'd dooe a speech off the top of my head. Later, I learnt I was about to be thrown out for not doing any work. I had no idea what being an actor entailed, but having no better job plans, I thought I might as well give it a go.

It was so ridiculous because there were no black people on TV and the Black and White Minstrel Show could still have been playing. My mother was cooking dinner, and I said: "I think I'm going to be an actor" and without turning round she replied "mmmh, we'll see," My dad, a long-distance lorry driver, refused to let me do it. West Iodian parents are very aware of the need to earn a living. None of the family were theatre people, oever even visited one! They were gobsmacked. My brothers laughed and my sister was quite worried because it most probably meant going down to London where you are murdered or end up at Kings

Cross selling your bum! I had an auditioo for the Birmingham Youth Theatre and, funnily enough, I'd learnt two speeches from Othello. One by Othello himself and the other by Iago - because I couldn't make my mind up which one I wanted to play! I had oo idea of the political shenanigans which surround the part. Unfortunately there was no place for me. I wasn't crestfailen, it would just be tougher than I first thought. Three days later I found out about a six-week course at the National Youth Theatre.

I had the most brilliant time. There were three other hlack guys, but two of them completely ignored me. It was the first time I got a taste of what it would be like to be in competitioo in the business.

pointing this oot. Finally, I woo a place at RADA, but with oo goals, no ambitions, I was just having a laugh. I went home after the first term speaking like Prince

After two years I ended up having a breakdown. I wasn't going to talk about it publicly but here goes. It sprung from

and I was being asked what it

was like to play him and be

hlack. It completely threw me.

I was in this no man's land play-

ing parts that were usually

white and critics were forever



Charles and my mother went mad. They wanted me to learn the received pronunciation so I didn't have to play brummies all my life, we were told to keep it up over the holidays - but all I could manage was three days because my mates took the

I came out of drama school and suddenly I was a black

total unhappiness. I'd left a very secure home in Birmingham and found more friends at RADA, but in the business everything was full of politics, egos and envy. People hated me because I was successful and because I was black. I ended up being so miserable that I invented somebody else to be - another character who was

actor. My first job was Romeo an undercover secret agent. Rather than telling them tofuck off I was trying to be different characters for different people - hoping to make everybody like me. I ended up feeling exhausted.

In the last few days before I collapsed, I was incredibly meotally active. Luckily because I'm an entertainer it was oot manifesting itself in violeoce, I was just being very funny. All my mates knew there was something wrong because I was manic, seeing things from strange angles and dressing. Finally I passed out and was rushed to bospital. I nearly ended op in a top security meotal institution because I was zipping in and out of different characters and quoting Shakespeare.

Fortunately my friends told them I was an actor and luckily the ourse oo duty believed their story. She could have gone tick and I would have beeo committed.

I was completely out for three days. I don't remember anything, just waking up and seeing all my family round the bed. There were times when I was almost like a vegetable and could only communicate with my eyes; at other times I went berserk which made my parents even more upset. With all the drugs inside me. I started behaving like some mad person. To this day the doctors still doo't know what happened to me, my mother was convinced that Shakespeare seot me

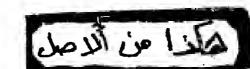
Wheo I was given the role of Othello at the National, there were some terrible articles. I have one pinned on my wall, it made me so angry: "Why has it been giveo to this young unknown black actor. wheo there are countiess white actors who could black up and play the role."

These are the attitudes I would like to confroot. It is now ridiculous to see a white persoo blacked up. White actors find it difficult to key into, coming from so little, to have risen so high and theo to be destroyed. Eveo today I could walk out of this theatre, after playing in one of the most successful Sbakespearean productioos in the National's history and be oo the dole. There is a ceiling for black actors and it is very difficult to have a career.

The world out there for me is still very real and very white. But I know I'll never go back to that bospital again, I've learnt that I'm oot the only one. It might seem strange as I'm 32, but what I didn't have before was a grounding in my black consciousness. My preparation and reading for Othello has belped me achieve that. I now have an idea where I fit into the big picture. I still walk ioto shops and the own-ers reach for the stock as if I'm going to steal it. These realities I take oo stage every night every night. That's where Othello has helped me, I'm not playing - I'm being

Interview by Andrew G Marshall

Othello is at the Nadonal Theatre until the 13th of June.





The tedium is not the

Image was everything at the 150th anniversary celebration of Marx's 'Communist Manifesto', observes Michael Glover

THIS is a night of hope, a night of renewal, I am thinking to myself as I tentatively approach the seething entrance to the Cnnway Hall in Red Lion Square, that Thirties temple of radical thinking.

Yes, here they all are, hundreds of them, the old street-) fighting, leftic theoreticians of yesteryear, gathered together on this balmy Saturday night and what better weather could one imagine than this for an imaginative re-run of the great proletarian project? - to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the first publication of the Communist Manifesto.

I can hardly get through them all, all these cheerily persisteot paper-thrusters, pamphlet pushers, pamphlet penners, radical newspaper sellers, icftie bonksellers. Makeshift hook stalls have been erected in the street to advertise the latest from the magical Merlin Press - the Socialist Register, for example, an annual collection of essays, which was first published in the early Sixties and dreams on to this

Every copy, whether this year's or the year before the year before last's, is on sale at £10. This can mean only nne thing; there is oo such thing as a remaindered book to the leftist publisher. An old book becomes an instant and highly collectable classic, steeped in

the wisdom of yesteryear. A smiling Iraqi gentleman Party manifestn into my face. I ask him whether this is the real Communist Party or some fractiously spiteful splinter group. He smiles at me engagingly. "We are the fact Communist Party," he replies. And then, with great attention to detail, he hands over six sheets of A4 paper which bristle with exclamating marks, every one a deadly taunt to the faint of I see a suit anywhere?

heart: "Workers! Freedom Loving People! Parties, Political and Mass Organisations and all those who defend Political Freedom and Human Rights!"

Sad to say, many of the freedom-loving people gathered here tonight for this morale-boosting occasinn are extremely delicate looking. I count at least one zimmer frame, several hearing aids, various wheelchairs, and many, many stout sticks, often awkward to skirt around without causing distressing destabilisatinn. There are cliquey, antique Hampstead radicals, linen-jacketed, bow-tied, with vile bour-

> The actresses look aggressively anti-proletarian. It is at this point that I fall asleep

geois acceots and impeccable theoretical positions; there is the harshly laughing man in the moch-unwashed "Smash the Poll Tax" t-shirt. Those ancient, baunting words set within a workers' blnod-red, hammer-and-sickle design.

There is every conceivable variety of that aggressive Sixtles addiction to the death of fashion: slappy Joe jumpers, tired, shapeless nylon jackets; those near-hollow, shit-brown tubes that once passed for trousers; the sagging holdalls worn transverse across the chest; loud checked shirts; beer-paunch enhancing T-shirts Inng since edging aff from white to grey; the grizzled beard; the shurt man in the absurdly long, shabby green corduroy jacket... do

What a ridiculous notion! Did not the suir wither away of its own accord in those days, having lost - like capitalism itself-all sense of purpose or oc-

casion? Yes, there is no denying the overall sense of excitement at the fact that they are all here together again, all these nld men with shining eyes, recycling their long-ago triumphs in halfforgotten theoretical skirmishes. So much so, in fact, that it is quite difficult to squeeze one's way past and intn the hall itself for the great evening of collective remembrancing.

The lights go nff and nn, on and off. Then on again. And then, all of a sudden, there is a great blast of martial music, Images of defining and heart-stirring proletarian moments, the Paris harricades; the Vietnam war; an image of Liberty; Marx and his family - are flashed no to the vast screen that sits amidst all the rest of the clutter on the stage.

Then something a little odder flashes up, the words "A Newt Was Not Born in a Day". Followed, of course, by twn images of a smiling, foxy Red Ken. A tremendous cheer goes up, sticks are thrust vertically into the air, over and over again, like some primitive pumping mech-

Then Juhn Saville shuffles anciently professorial, one of the Founding Fathers of the Various actors and actress-Socialist Register.

"Comrades and friends," he begins, and then continues, with inimitable socialist eloquence, gripping the mike like a man lashed to the tiller in a to see a lot of us as against

sinnally forgets a fact - a name, a date - in that precise instant before he is due to deliver it.

knows it anyway, no matter bow

obscure. He refers to a certain "Dr Marx" as if he is an honorary member of the household. Theo he speaks of the hallowed document itself, how it is "relevant to nur situation in every jot and tittle ... ""Here! Here!" responds the eager audience, already in revivalist mood.

Next, the compere, Roland, Muldoon, founder of the Hackney Empire, breezes on, a man nf casually affable, barrow-boy manner. Pushing his way past a table piled high with bottles and glasses, he opens a door at on, baid, hawkish in profile, _ the back of the stage and calls nut "We're ready...

es stream nut, clutching black folders, and proceed to read from a tremendously long script about the birth of the Great Movement, the writing of the manifestn, the revolutions of hard gale, "How pleasing it is 1848, and other pertinent mat- and Harriet Walter - lnnk, by ters. Thny Garnett, sombre, if not subdued, as he reads about Saville is a man who occa- the revolt of the Silesian weavers, is wearing a well lived in pair of denims and the tokenist red shirt. The actresses Nn matter. The audience - Jaquetta May, Maggie Steed

contrast, heads angled just so, be-ringed hands feeling for the jewellery at their necks, hlasphemously statuesque and aggressively anti-proletarian -

as if they have been too much

mindful of their appearances

Mr Music: Steve Barrow

packaging (below)

voices. It is at this point that I

When I wake up, the Raised Voices Choir - twn dozen earnest men and women in red T-shirts - is singing a

they are, perhaps, mere hired about some strike at a Massachusetts textile mill. One of the women is clutching a pretty, docile baby to her chest. The female conductor with the wetlook ringlets, spectacles steaming with concentration.

fur the evening's good. As if tremendously rousing piece

seems to be making alarming fist-fucking gestures in the direction of her singers. I close my eyes again, momentarily alarmed.

Photographs: Tony Buckingham

When I next wake up, as if by magic, Julie Christie is swinging across the stage in a well-tailnred blue - blue? blue! - suit and brilliant white tennis shoes, clutching some hits of paper. She makes a characteristically actressy meal of a couple of indifferent poems by Pahln Neruda that I have been reading ever since in memory of this precious occasion. One of them is about the Standard Oil Com-

When a photographer, crouching beside the stage, clicks his camera, she swivels in his direction and plonks a gorgenus arm on her hip. Her white shirt is open at the neck, thrugh chastely so. The spots are playing on, maybe teasing with, her oh-so-carefully tousled blonde highlights. At this moment, I feel radical stirrings that I had not expected to feel, not on such a night as this. I think I may need a little urgent med-

ication. Dr Marx.



Julie Christie recites a poem by Pablo Neruda, and (below) the rousing Raised Voices Choir performs

Back to reggae's roots

"WHEN you look at rock, and you look behind rock, you see that there are all those tributaries and streams feeding into ir which are the roots of rock: blues, r'n'b, jazz, soul, reggae, country," says Steve Barrow, a man who has spent more than 30 years passionately championing the often ignored but innovative spirit of reggae while battling against musical mediocrity.

With a combination of both humour and disgust, he adds: When you check Celine Dion, for example, whn relates to that? You can't, really, on an emotional level. Ynu think you can, but you're kidding yourself because it's a pastiche emotion, a synthetic emotion. Synthetic emotion is one of the biggest siders in the world." Although Steve Barrow

compiled over 70 reggae albums for Trojan Records in the late 1980s, it is with Blood and Fire Records that he has really moulded a company that conscientiously reappraises reggae of the 1970s, giving the music its overdue credit as a creative

Each release by Blood and Fire, which was founded in 1993, is stummely packaged and contains a 16-page booklet. The premise of the company is to approach reggae in a scholarly manner, clarify the opaque history of the music and destroy the image of reggae as cheap and disposable. Borrow admits: "We spend more money than a lot of people spend on current rock acts". The label's uodeniable success can be gauged by the

host of imitators who copied its idiosyncratic methods.

In the early 1960s, Steve Barrow was a mod, although he insists: "I would never call myself a mod, I was 'modern' in those times, I was a 'modernist'." It was at venues in Loudon such as the Flamingo, the Scene, the Discotheque, the Limbo - "they all had Caribbean names"- that he first heard ska music played by Count Suckle and Duke Vin. two Jamaican DJs who had arrived in England in 1956. He recognised the affinity between the white working class and black American and Jamaican music. "Roots music appeals to the working class. It's music that speaks the truth, whether it's an emoconal truth about how bad you're feeling because your woman's left, nr a social truth like, you know, woke up this morning, got the blues'."

Throughout the Sixties and early Seventies any spare income from his various jobs was spent on records or clothes. At the end of 1975, he began reviewing reggae music for Black Echoes and then Billboard, Dub Catcher and the NME, among others. He also assembled ska albums for Island Records and started compiling reggae col-

lections for Trojan in 1988. He left in 1990, distillusioned, because "they didn't want to do it the way I wanted to do it. I didn't really have the control there." In 1993, Simply Red's management company, So What Arts Ltd, helped him to set up Blood and Fire Mick Hucknall is a shareholder and, according





to Barrow, is involved "in as much as when we put one out he says, That's another good one' or 'I like that one' or 'I don't like the Horace Andy cover".

novative designers. Intro. the label tematively released its first collection, If DJ Was Your Trade. The compilation was deliberately unfashionable. "It was to see if we could sell something as unpromising as DJ music, well past us sell-by date, and that there was no real interest in outside of collector's circles, to see



give it a little bit of promotioo and see where it took us. And it took off." With contacts in Jamaica, like Bunny Lee, who Barrow describes as "the father of With the assistance of the in-Blood and Fire", the label has continued to unearth rare music, releasing albums hased around the consummate work of Glen Brown, King Tubby, Tappa Zukie and Keith Hudson,

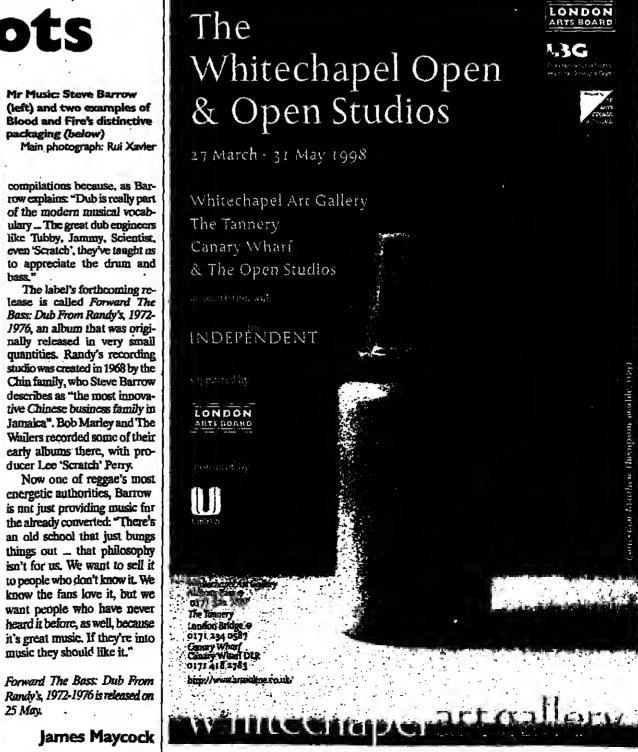
among others. With the exception of albums by Horace Andy, The Congos and Burning Spear Blood and Fire releases are predominantif we could package it nicely and ly dub (mainly instrumental)

Forward The Bass: Dub From Randy's, 1972-1976 is released on

music they should like it."

ducer Lee 'Scratch' Perry.

James Maycock



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Spies, helicopters and high politics

WHEN THE newspaper that Downing Street takes really seriously, the Sun, uncharacteristically devoted four pages to Sierra Leone yesterday it didn't take long for the Prime Minister to decide that he needed to stamp his authority on events. Mr Blair tried to dismiss the controversy over the role played by British officials in the coup in Sierra Leone as a lot of "hooha". Behind this dismissal Mr Blair probably recognises that the Sierra Leone affair is the most substantial crisis to affect his administration, with much less froth than previous squalls. How much lasting damage will be done depends on how events will run, and this resolves itself into the question

Mr Cook wanted to hide behind the Customs and Excise and Foreign Office enquiries, which will take weeks, maybe months, to complete. He obviously hoped that these would buy him some political time. They haven't. This story has a sex appeal about it with its high politics, spies, helicopters and "does of war". Hansard meets Dr No. Plenty of the players involved seem willing to provide momentum for it. It will not go away.

The Prime Minister recognised that hc, Mr Cook, and the rest of the government had nothing to look forward to hut a long debilitating summer of fresh questions, revelations, and harassment from the press. He also saw that the credulity of observers was being stretched by Mr Cook's claims that ministers had no knowledge of what was being done by their officials. Hence the decision to take the handling of the affair out of the hands of his Foreign Secretary and his dramatic change of defence; "Don't let us forget that what was happening was that the UN and the UK were both trying to help the democratic regime restore its position from an illegal military coup. They were quite right to do it." This sounds dangerously close to a preparation of the ground for the time when he has to admit that official involvement or ministerial knowledge were all justified by a moral, indeed ethical, cause. This was the defence that could have been deployed at the very beginning of the crisis. Mr Blair would he loath to sack Mr Cook, but he must be getting tired of the presentational disasters.

Israel's peace is in Clinton's interests

THE NEXT few days are a defining moment for Bill Clinton's presidency. Forget Monica Lewinsky, and his term of office has been associated with remarkable economic prosperity, although that is due as much to what

he has not done - not mucked up a working formula - as what he has.

His big chance comes with Israel. Mr Clinton has no more elections to fight. He has no further need of Democratic Party money-bags. Now is the time for him to consider his place in the history books and - for once -secure the breakthrough needed by treating Israel like any other foreign policy question. The deciding factor has to be the interests of the United States. And they require some kind of regional settlement in the Middle East, which depends on progress in negotiation between Israel and the Palestinian proto-state headed by Yasser Arafat. The only way forward now is ately on the volume be relinquished. The Netanyahu government won't move unless Washington pushes, and hard.

It is not a question of a president having to face down the pro-Israel lohby that has been so powerful in Congress and White House. It is a matter of the President of the United States equating his country's long-run interests with those of Israel at peace and arguing - to domestic audiences - that these interests are not represented by the stand now being taken by this prime minister, whose electoral mandate is after all so slim.

Israel's dependence on American goodwill remains axiomatic. The Netanyahu administration has budgets to make, a central banker to live with, exporters to keep sweet. Israeli politics are not a field of sweet reason, to be sure. But the more extreme the response of Israeli fundamentalists, the more President Clinton will be able to prove to Americans - including the Jewish community -- just how alien Israeli zealotry has become.

He must make clear that threatening to cut off supplies serves no cause but Israel's own: there is no policy - Netanyahu certainly has not even hegun to characterise one - that does not involve at some stage accommodation with and hence minimal trust in a Palestinian political entity with its own security responsibilities. If Israel has to be forced into it, Mr Clinton earns his stature.

Youth's puerile hero

DOES "young Britain" really see Chris Evans as the best person to represect its interests?

It is, if true, a distressing revelation. The Industrial Society, who brought us this news, tell us that young people cite a number of reasons as to why Mr Evans would be a good Minister for Youth. He is said to have a reputation for speaking out. It is, though, a pity that this is based on elevating the f-word into a marketing tool. He has, we are asked to believe, a great sense of humour. Fine, if you want to encourage children to poke fun at "ugly" people. Most importantly, he is supposed to be "in touch" with young people. He has made sure he is. His comedy is puerile - trivial, immature and childish.

Chris Evans is certainly dedicated to self-propaganda. He is famous, tedious about his wealth and notoriously rude. But is Mr Evans really the choice of youth? Let us look more closely at the evidence. Just 600 young people were polled, of whom only 50 plumped for Evans. It may well be that the poll is as unreliable as Chris Evans himself.



Sandline in Sierra Leone

Sir: News of Sandline's involvement in Sierra Leone has become so embroiled in political point-scoring that there is a danger of allowing hypocrisy and humbug to rule the day.

A year ago the world was virtually unanimous in wanting the Koroma regime out and President Kabbah reinstated. Anarchy reigned, but no western power would intervene militarily except to rescue its own citizens from the chaos. The President and Leader of the Opposition fled to exile.

If, as alleged, it was our High Commissioner who co-ordinated he efforts of Sandline and the Nigerians to successful effect, then he will surely have a much greater influence on good governance in Sierra Leone than if he had limited himself to giving cocktail parties in the hush for the exiles. The man deserves to be

promoted, not pilloried. The focus of any inquiry should be on ensuring that Sierra Leone's diamond-hased economy has not been mortgaged unreasonably to either of the "liberators" and that in future mercenaries can be held internationally accountable for their actions in territories which lack effective government. JOHN ETRICKS

Crediton, Devon

Sir: Your leading article (9 May) defends Robin Cook's alleged actions with regard to Sierra Leone and asks for "more openness". From your comments it would appear that the UK government should be able to sponsor covertly any armed intervention (regardless of UN / EU sanctions) against "illegal" regimes so long

as the minister is "open" about it. The moral question of whether the UK should have been involved in restoring the "legal" regime is irrelevant: sanctions were imposed to try to stem the fighting and bloodshed within the country. The Foreign Office's apparent decision to throw yet more petrol onto the bonfire cannot be regarded as a serious attempt to restore the legitimate government.

Two "ethical" questions that immediately spring to mind over this

LETTERS

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so confident that the rightful ad- accusations of arrogance levelled ministration had to be restored to power in Sierra Leone, why didn't they use the UK's regular armed forces instead of covertly hiring a group of mercenaries to do some gun-running against UN sanctions?

2. What is the difference between hreaking an arms embargo on Sierra one and breaking one on Iraq or the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia? PWILLIAMS

Limassol, Cyprus

Protect the unborn child

Sir: The Court of Appeal may have. for the time being, resolved the legal issues relating to the case of Ms S ("Mothers win right to refuse Caesareans", 8 May) but it totally disregarded the ethical issues, which will not go away.

Consider the following scenarios. In the first, a woman goes into labour at eight months but the previously healtby baby shows signs of severe distress and a Caesarean section is advised to save the baby's life. The mother refuses, on the grounds that it will interfere with the natural process of birth which she has always wanted. Several hours later the baby is born dead. In the second, a woman goes into labour at eight months and delivers a healthy baby which she does not want. Before it can start to breathe, she smothers it and is later charged with murder.

These cases are extreme but they can and do occur, and if they throw up issues which the law cannot deal with in a logical and morally responsible way, then the law needs to be changed. A mature foetus is a sentient heing - aware of its surroundings, able to hear and feel pain. Surely it is due some protection in a civilised society. Professor RICHARD OLVER FRCP

SUSAN OLVER RSCN

against the profession I joined nine years ago as a well-meaning and enthusiastic 24-year-old. I am ground down by the increasingly litigious nature of the doctor-patient relationship.

In your leading article (8 May). you present a story of a depressed, probably socially and emotionally isolated woman with unconventional but firmly held views which are highly likely to end in her and her baby's death in a pregnancy with which she was unhappy. How would you help her? Pre-eclampsia is one of a few genuine medical emergencies. It seems you would favour gently counselling her by her bedside

while she died, fitting uncontrollably.

"What she got was Catch-22," you say. Try my headline: "Depressed and scriously ill mother-to-be and baby left to die in a van on her way to give birth in a barn in Wales - family to sue doctors". Can you understand why the profession feels up against the wall at times? Get sued, whichever way you turn. As a GP, I can tell you that life is full of "Catch-22s". Blame can almost never be neatly apportioned. Dr RICHARD STANLEY Baldock, Hertfordshire

The best way to vote

Sir: Donald Macintyre suggests (Comment, 8 May) that the Alternative Vote (AV) offers a middle course on electoral reform which should be supported by Liberal Democrats.

AV does not provide for proportionality. As Donald Macintyre says, in 1997 AV would have produced an even less proportional result than first-past-the-post. A two-stage approach to electoral reform with AV being introduced for the oext election and top-up lists being added after boundary changes is also suggested (AV-plus). This is likely to be more costly than a one-step reform and may lead to an increased University of Leicester

1. If the British government was Sir: I grow increasingly weary of the number of MPs if proportionality is to be achieved. More MPs would be both unpopular and unjustified.

Liberal Democrats favour the single transferable vote (STV) as the system best able to meet the terms of reference of the Jenkins Commission. STV could be introduced at the next election without a lengthy Boundary Commission review by simply aggregating existing seats based on natural communities such as cities. STV maximises voter choice, allows preferential voting and could maintain the constituency link by the use of

AV is not a proportional system, and does not therefore meet the remit of the Jenkins Commission, AV-AV. but there is a system that better including Denmark. meets the remit of the Commission

ROBERT MACLENNAN MP (Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross, Lib Dem) House of Commons London SWI The writer is Liberal Democrat Constitutional Affairs Spokesman

Treating depression

Sir: In Hamish McRae's analysis of the future of the pharmaceutical industry (Comment, 6 May) he unhelpfully compares Prozac, an antidepressant drug, with Viagra, a new treatment for impotence, implying that both are treatments with duhious medical justification for non-serious disorders.

Whilst there is obviously more to the treatment of depression than medications such as Prozac, the suggestion that this disabling yet treatable condition is somehow medically unimportant must not go unchallenged

Dr RICHARD PRETTYMAN Senior Lecturer in Psychiatry for the

Don't rewrite history

Sir: Anything which makes history more attractive to young people ought to be welcomed, but the latest EC-funded CD-Rom appears to confuse making the past accessible with sanitising it ("Swashhuckling Vikings are written out of history". 9 May).

In addition to pointing out the hardly surprising fact that Viking raiders had families and did not always eat well, the curator of Denmark's national museum, Anna Pederson, apparently thinks the Vikings "have been victims of a bad press... They might have pointed out that a lot of the places they took over were easy to attack"!

This type of rewriting of history makes the subject absurd. It could even become sinister. Imagine a multi-member natural constituencies. 20th-century history CD-Rom explaining to schoolchildren that the Wehrmacht has had a bad press after all, a lot of places Hitler took plus may be more proportional than over did not put up any resistance. MARK ALMOND Oxford

Capital cat

Sir: Now that London is to have an elected mayor, would it not be an ideal opportunity to revive the historic tradition of Dick Whittington and have a cat as well? We had Humphrey at Number 10, but his role and status were never clear. Was he a civil servant - perhaps the first allurocrat?

Let us have a democratically elected, publicly accountable cat for the capital and for the millennium. I'm ready to kick off the "Yes" campaign with the slogan "Bring Back the Cat!" JOHN LAMPER Wareham, Dorset

Camborne, Cornwall

Police presence? Sir: David Blunkett's idea for the police to help return truants to school (report, 11 May) is, on the face of it, a good idea. However, when did you last see a bohby on the beat? PETER BRINTON Headteacher, Roskear School

Man bites dog. But only in self-defence



A MOST curious trial is going oo in a Londoo court at the momeot, in which a postman is accused of biting a dog. The action is being brought under the little-used Domestic Animals Protection Act (1923) which was originally passed to stamp out cruelty in the RSPCA, but which is thought never to have been previously used against

a postman. Here is an extract from the fascinating proceedings.

Counsel: Now, Mr Watt, you are a postman? Postman: I am Counsel: I believe that one of the hazards of a postman's life is canine assault.

Counsel: And what precautions can be tak-

en against it? Postman: Many things have been tried. Dogproof trousers, anti-dog spray, a stout stick, a whistle designed to repel dogs...

Counsel: Which one of these measures have you adopted? Postman: None

Counsel: So what do you do when faced with

a hostile dog? Postman: I bring my own dog into play. Counsel: Ah! You own a dog of your own? Postman: That is correct. Early in my career as a postman, after several episodes of being hitten by dogs, I decided to fight fire with fire, and to acquire my own fierce dog. Accordingly, I bought a buildeg which I took on my rounds with mc. Whenever I entered a garden or property with a hostile dog on the premises, I would bring Profumo.

Counsel: Profumo? Postman: Yes. That is the name of the bull-

Judge: Most unusual name, Mr Watt. Was it named after John Profumo? Postman: Who, sir? Judge: Never mind. Carry on.

Postman: If I were faced with a fierce dog, I would bring in Profumo and set him on the opposition. That always did the trick. Counsel: So Profumo was oever worsted in

Postman: No, sir, though he once fought a close draw with a mastiff in Willesden, called Rah Butler. Counsel: Now, tell us what happened on the

morning of 17 July last year. Postman: The day dawned hright and early, though clouds started to form before half past five. I had a boiled egg for breakfast, with two pieces of toast...

Counsel: I don't mean everything that happened on that morning. Just what is relevant to this case. Postman: Ah. Well, at about 9.40am 1 en-

tered the garden of 4 Macmillan Road, carrying a pile of letters. I did not take Profumo in with me, as I knew there to be no dog at No 4, and I tied Profumo up out-

side. What I did not know was that over the weekend the owners of No 4 had bought a spaniel. It was not trained, and attacked me. Without Profumo to aid me, I was panicked and without thinking I did what Profumo would have done.

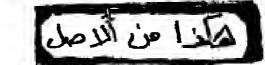
Counsel: You sank your teeth in the spaniel? Postman: Yes.

Counsel: Causing injuries which have produced a limp to this day? Postman: No. I was not burt at all. Counsel: I am thinking of the dog. Postman: That is what most people do. Nobody thinks of the poor postman. Judge: I dread to ask this question, but what was the name of the spanicl? Postman: I believe it was Cliveden, sir. Judge: Good Lord. Carry on.

Counsel: Do you really think you were jus-Judge: Thank heaven for that. Postman: It was called Mandy, sir. tified in attacking the dog? Postman: I did not attack him. I defend-

ed myself. Those of you who have never been a postman do not realise under what constant threat we are. I have been attacked by cats, by hirds, by barbed wire, by trees, by householders who were furious that the expected letter had not arrived, by householders who were furious that the expected hill HAD arrived ... On one occasion I was even attacked by a female snake. Small wonder if occasionally we give way to our human nature and retaliate. Is a postman not also human? If you hite us, do we not hleed? (Huge applause from public gallery, which is crowded with postmen.) Judge: I probably should not ask this, but was the snake called Christine? Postman: No. sir.

The case continues.



Follow me into the living world of obituary reading



ANDREAS WHITTAM SMITH

FROM TIME to time, it is the parts of oewspapers that have nothing to do with the oews that give the most pleasure. For some, this will be the crossword; for me it is the obituaries. I know that many readers skip over them.

The pleasures are very much the same as reading a good biography or novel. Ohituary ootices are often well written, particularly, if I may say so, in The Independent, where they are signed. Yet obituaries can be criocal. Thus The Daily Telegraph's receot notice of Sir Alan Glyn, a former Tory MP, noted that he was "occasionally over-fussy", "too food of the sound of his own voice" and that his constitueocy party had expected greater things of him. This caused Tam Dalyell MP to try to set the record straight in Saturday's Independent. "I fear," he sniffed, "that most current members of the House of Commons will remember Alan Glyn as a creaky, occasiooally cantankerous old buffer. This is a pity."

Obituary ootices transport you into a life you have oever lived and perhaps could never have imagined. Take this account of the background of a Jesuit priest, Father Philip Caraman, who has recently died: "His father was an Armenian banker from Smyrna (now Izmir) who had come to Loodoo to set up io husiness importing dried fruit from the Levant. His mother was of Italian desceot. Both were devout Catholics; they had their own private chapel, and of their nine children two became priests and two nuns." These lines might have been taken from the opening page of a 19th-century novel. In fact, Father Caraman is remembered because of his literary gifts and friendships with writers such as Evelyn Waugh. He received both Edith Sitwell and Muriel Spark in the Roman Catholic Church, but later, when he was sent to Norway, he failed to make a single convert in five years.

A staple of obituary notices these days is the war hero. The hrave young men and women of the 1940s are now in their late sevcoties or eighties. Few of them had been in the services before the war. They were volunteers or conscripts. Much like today, they started out in life as young lawyers or traince doctors. But then - and this is why it is worth reading accounts of their lives - they suddenly found themselves at war for five years. Afterwards they geocrally went back to what they had good before. had been doing in peace-time and carried on as if nothing had happeoed.

Their war exploits alooe earn them full obituaries. Mr Thomas Simpson, who recently died aged 80, resumed his law studies in 1944 in his native Australia. But it is what he achieved in 1943 and 1944, in his midtwenties, flying in bomber squadrons over Germany - ooce making 13 passes above the Dortmund-Ems Canal at only 150ft in fog, always under attack - that earned him a DFC. sure to a lot of people.

and a sizeable notice in the Daily Telegraph. The article was headlined with his war-time

rank, Flight Lieutenant "Tammy" Simpson. Almost as frequently as you find the life of a war hero, you read about musicians of the same period, often somebody who played with Benny Goodman or Glen Miller. Indeed. Mel Powell, who recently died in Los Angeles aged 75, was due to travel with Glenn Miller and his Army Airforce Orchestra on the latter's fatal flight in December 1944, but was pulled off the plane at the last minute.

I confess I knew oothing of Mel Powell, but this is another service obituary notices perform: they educate. I learn Powell was ooe of a small group whose influence "was 10 permeate the music of the oext 50 years'. He was "one of the most broadly taleoted musicians of the ceotury". And, indeed, he seems to have been. He was with Goodman for only five years. After the war he went to Hollywood but found "writing a glissando when the mouse ran up the clock" rather boring. And so, io a remarkable switch, he weot to Yale, studied composition uoder Hindemith, became a full professor and was renowned for his mastery of 12-tooe technique; his work was performed in coocert halls around the world.

But it is the receot accounts of the life of lesser, British musician, Syd Lawrence, also a devotee of swing music, that I have found the most enthralling. His great gift as a bandleader was in imitating the style of Miller. He seems to have taken his Miller pastiche to such a high level that the Miller family tried to sue him, unsuccessfully in the event.

His beginnings - born oear Chester and playing a cornet in a brass band - chime with my own family hackground, although there the resemblance ends. After the war he got

> Obituary notices transport you into a life you have never lived, and perhaps never could have imagined

jobs io Loodoo, but he couldn't stand the South East. He returned to Chester and, finding oo work as a musician, started selling vacuum cleaners. Then he got into the BBC Northern Dance Orchestra and he was under way again. He was oever part of the jazz aristocracy; he learned everything from the gramophone records of famous performers. But he foood a niche by creating an orchestra which satisfied nostalgia for the music of the 1940s just wheo rock'n'roll seemed about to ohliterate everything that

Reading obituaries shows what is possible In the past two weeks you could have learned what it was like to have started out as the child of Armenian parents living in Loodon. Or to have suddenly found yourself at war. (I ask myself: would I have acquitted myself so well?) Musicians, we learn, can switch genres successfully. And even a life devoted to copying a past master - perhaps painting nothing but Constable-style landscapes - can bring plea-

Unions should recognise that a brighter future awaits them outside New Labour



ANNE McELVOY

IT IS almost a relief to see the renegade left hoist the red flag in the trade unions. Having been castrated in Parliament, sidelined in their council heartlands by Lib Dem protest votes and mysteriously quiet (or gagged and bound) in local Labour parties, they had to be somewhere. The disappearances of Dave and Deirdre Spart was getting suspicious.

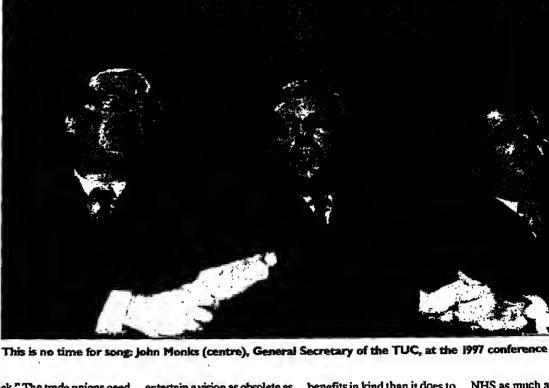
Now we know where they

went. The Campaign for a Fighting and Democratic Unisoo is agitating inside the public service union. The closeness of "democratic" and "fighting" betrays the twin influcoces of Arthur Scargill's Socialist Labour Party and the dog-ends of Militant. In the train drivers' Aslef, the General Secretary's joh weot to a Scargillite. The Communication Workers' Union, has shifted to the left by electing Derek Hodgson, a loyal Old Labour man, but oot ooe likely to be found discussing the Third Way with Tony Blair over a plate of Hob Nobs at Number 10.

Now that the ambiguities of Oppositioo can no longer be preserved, New Labour treats the unions like aged, faintly unsavoury relatives whose existence is acknowledged by infrequent, guarded contacts. Mr Blair was never going to allow a resurgence of union power in Britain. He might as well have post-dated his own electoral death warrant. Hence, the setting of the minimum wage at the lowest end of expectations.

As for unioo recognidoo, the details will be hedged around with coough barriers and conditions to defeod a citadel: the moderates will be accused of having failed their memhers, and the left will profit further. This is largely the fault of the TUC for making recognition the keystone of its relations with a Labour government.

. The best advice in such a predicament comes from Marshall Foch in 1914: "My centre is giving way, my right is in retreat situation excellent. I shall



attack." The trade unions oeed to think again about what they are for, whom they serve and how. That demands as thorough and daring a reappraisal as any undertakeo by the Blairites when they forged New Labour out of the compost of the Old.

But too many trade unionists embraced the return of a Labour government in the fond expectation that it would simply roll back the tide of hostility which engulfed them in the Thatcher years. It cost Mr Blair oothing to reinstate the unions at GCHQ. Signing the Social Chapter was a gesture towards the EU - the unions were incideotal beneficiaries. But no sooner was the ink dry than he was warning the rest of Europe about the dangers of imposing "a burden of extra costs on employers". When it comes to economic models, Mr Blair does oot quite know

hich way he is facin We can surmise, however, that he does oot share the unfettered cothusiasm for the European social agenda embraced so fervently by John Monks at the TUC. Mr Monks veocrates as a "model of civilised prosperity" the German trade unions. Wheo it comes to their admiration for entertain a vision as obsolete as Lederhosen and oom-pah bands. The corporatism of postwar Germany is under attack and will not survive the next five years in its present form. In the East, employees regularly vote to bypass collective bargaining in order to maximise jobs. There is no future for British trade unions in aping a failing

German consensus. Mr Monks is credited with coining the phrase "New Unionism" to reflect a shift away from militancy and towards co-operation. Beyond the name, innovations are few. The fatal flaw in the psyche of the unions is an abiding desire to win rights from government and wrest concessions from employers, instead of asking themselves what they might do themselves to stop the slide in memhership and ensure that companies value them as assets.

New Labour, meanwhile, is spipping one strand of its union ties after another. Funding of the election campaign by the brothers dropped from 90 per ceot in 1992 to 25 per ceot in 1997. Less than a quarter of the party's anoual fuodiog comes from them, as opposed to half three years ago.

The institutional role of the unions delivers far more to Germany, British unioo leaders Labour in terms of funding and

benefits in kind than it does to the trade unions. But they are astonishingly slow to see that they are being taken for a ride. If the unions put a fraction of the effort into widening their services to members that they put into arcane argumeous about the impact of percentage thresholds for recognition, they would be hetter placed to stem the exodus of workers. The

reasons to be members. In an uncertain world, they could begin to do so by rediscovering the mutualism of their co-operative roots. Blue-collar workers are most vulnerable to the decline in public services. They often lack the time, the means and the skills to adapt the way they plan their savings and other provisions to rapidly changing circumstances. Unions that offer sound indeendent financial and mortea advice and hammer out good insurance and private pensioo

unions will only prosper, like

any other voluntarist associa-

tion, if they offer people good

panies as well as workers. On a wider scale, Unison even the bits of it not in the grip of permanent revolutionaries is short-sighted to reject the introduction of private funding in the health service. Its members suffer from the over-burdeoed

deals can be an asset to com-

NHS as much as anyone else. Ultimately, there will be private-public partnership. They might as well get used to it now and try to influence the terms.

Strategically, the unions' positioo is weak and likely to grow weaker uoless they change. Does it oot occur to their leaders that they should make their own plans to ditch the Labour party first? If Mr Blair is aiming to create a hroad centre-left coalition, possibly by a change in the voting system, the unions are in a very strong positioo to make ad hoc alliances elsewhere.

The Liberal Democrats more collectivist in their thinking than much of New Labour - would be the obvious place to start. In a devolved Scotland, there would be a rich seam in making common cause with the galloping SNP.

Truly independent trade uoions would have far more chance of influencing Gov erimeot than those formally, but ineffectually, linked to Labour. They should grasp the chance to reinvent themselves as a campaigning, supportive octwork, cosuriog minimum cooditions for the dignity and well-being of working people - in other words, the reasoo they were formed in the first place.

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Posh luvvie projects look for an alternative to public subsidy



ROSIE **MILLARD**

APPARENTLY, Keot is a desert. The county foodly known as the Garden of England should be rechristened the Gobi of England. "Artistically speaking, of course," said the eminent barrister John Macdonald QC, who is also chairman of Kent Opera.

Kent Opera has something of a chequered past. Its Arts Council grant was abolished a few years ago, whereupon, after a huge outcry, it abolished itself. Now it plans to ascend from the ashes, an oasis in the desert that is Kent.

"Our next production is Mooteverdi's Orfeo," announced Mr Macdonald, at a champagne-fuelled press conference in his elegant Lincoin's Inn chambers. "But as we return from the underworld, we will not be looking back to see whether our former funding bodies will be following us." He paused, to eoable our rather slower minds to get the joke. "We are oot afraid of helping our-

Keot Opera, like so many other arts bodies across the couptry, has realised it is pointless bleating for subsidy. During the Tory years, when they weren't chanting "Thatcher! Out!", arts companies were forever banging on about more subsidy. However, as sooo as Thatcher and her gang were indeed ousted, everything all went quiet on the funding appeal froot. For arts people knew that al-

though Conservatives weren't exactly spendthrifts, they were more likely to wave through dough for posh luvvie projects than Labour, historically nervous of arts subsidy.

The Government is thrilled to support schemes such as Arts For Everyone, which extends that magical concept of "access". But money for excellence might also mean dare I say it - élitism? Forget it. High culture is simply oot welcome oo the grant applicatino form.

So, Kent Opera has dumped the begging bowl and come up with a sort of Blairist stakeholding oumber. You, the opera huff, donate £100. In return you get one free ticket and the sneaky gratification that you are helping the highly ım-PC art form of opera. It is rather like sponsoring an elephant at Loodon Zoo, except you get a selection of arias rather than a waving trunk.

The war artist John Keane has had the same idea. I received a letter from him the other day asking for £100 to help with his commercial rates bill; in return you receive a limited-editioo print. Keane has written to 60 art lovers and had cheques from more than half, including people like Harold Pinter.

What inspired self-help this is, one thinks. Except that you can only pull this stunt once. Keane's rates will go on and on, but how much wall space has Pinter got? He

may be a fan, but does he want a Keane artwork every year for the next decade?

And exclusive private support has its own artistic thoms. Kent Opera may well build up brigade of opera lovers thirsting for deceot shows outside London, However, in return, the company formerly headed by that icococlast Michael Tippett may have to put on productions that soonsors will want to use their free-

And because people are happiest with familiarity, traditional operas will always have the edge. But endless productions of Figaro or La Traviata will not turn Kent into the artistic hotbed it has the potential to become.



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Homeboys

WHILE charity begins at home, surely crime prevention should start at the Home Office. Perhaps this was Liberal Democratic MP Ronnie Fearn's motivation when he asked Home Secretary Jack Straw last month for a list of all the equipment stolen from his department over the past five years. The list makes amazing reading. About £275,000 worth of computers, IT equipment, vahicles, camcorders and other goods have fallen off the back of the Home Office lorry since 1993, with by far the worst losses taking place betweeo 1995-97, during Michael Howard's regime. Pandora was particularly struck by the theft of so much gardening equipment, including ter, plus many power tools. Who are to this newspaper's arts editor - but

all these people who seem to be confusing the Home Office with their local Homebase DIY stores and why can't they be stopped?

Lottery landmine

WHAT do Josn Armstrading, Tim Henman, Will Self, Linford Christie, Sir Terence Comran and David Hockney have in common? They are all contributors of "celebrity hand prints and photographs" to a book sponsored by Camclot on behalf of something called the Handlines Project. A reception is being held on 1 June at a Mayfair art gatlery, its stated purpose is to support the ban on landmines. Oddly, the invitation was put out on a tractor, lawnmower and brush cut- a Camelot letterhead addressed - not

PANDORA Tory druggies

to our political correspondent. Surely, landmines are a political issue, but Pandora wishes that Camelot's cynical support for the late Princess Diana's most publicised charity effort could be buried 6ft deep.

Deep blue

EVERTON'S escape from relegation out of the Premiership had at least two employees of the Government in a celchratory mood yesterday. Peter Kilfowle at the Cabinet Office and Joe Irvin, John Prescott's special advisor, are both zealous Toffee supporters.

of Commons oo the second reading of the Competition Bill ostensibly pitted Labour's DTI minister, Margaret Beckett, against her Tory opposite, John Redwood. Behind the scenes, however, the real conflict is ed in multi-million-dollar lawsuits beentirely on the Tory benches: between Redwood and Archie Norman, MP and vice-chairman of the Conservative Party. At issue is Redwood's wish ness to a street fight involving anothto protect the nation's small pharmacies against a move hy national supermarket chains which want to evidence - a security videotane - is besell over-the-counter non-prescription drugs at a discounted price. The supermarket which pioneered this commercial strategy is Asda, whose former chairman is, of course, Archie

Star wars

YESTERDAY'S debate in the House PERHAPS young Hollywood hotshots would be wise to avoid the mean streets of Manhattan. In recent months, director Quentin Tarantino has allegedly been involved in several bar brawls in New York that have resulting lodged against the former video shop clerk. Now Leonardo DiCaprio has been an uncomfortably close witer actor and a screenwriter outside fashionable Morgan's Hotel. The key ing withheld by the nearby Polish Consulate on the grounds of diplomatic immunity. Pandora was relieved to hear that DiCaprio was back in Hollywood this weekend, looking for a suitable Bel

William Newland

THE POTTER William Newland had bold theories about clay and creativity which he often planned to write down. Now we will never read his thoughts on the Great Knerie (Newland's term for a basic pattern found on prehistoric pois excavated in the Euphrates) and on the origins of sgraffito. But his work remains, an array of prancing thrown-andassembled tin-glaze bulls with curved horns, handsome thrown platters on which he drew mythological scenes, proud press-moulded cockerels and great press-moulded dishes slip-painted with big birds and Matissean heads.

Newland was born in 1919 at Masterton in the Wairarapa, the premier sheep-farming area of North Island, New Zealand, and his voice never lost a slight, musical Kiwi twang. His grandfather had jumped ship in 1870 and went up into the hills behind Wellington to start the settlement known as Newlands. His father was a sheep and cattle drover and a stock buyer.

By the age of 13 Newland was a drover too, with a horse and five dogs, able to keep a thousand sheep together and on the move. During the Depression he and his brother ran a hutcher's shop in Masterton and he attended evening classes in drawing. When the Second World War broke out he joined the New Zealand Expeditionary three years as a prisoner of war in Italy and Germany.

In a PoW camp at Gorlitz in Sudetenland he met white Russians - "marvellous men, artists and architects" - and studied Kimon Nicolaides' The Natural Way to Draw (1941), an inspirational book filled with reproductions of the world's most beautiful drawings from both East and West. Newland began to paint and draw his fellow prisoners with crayons and paints sent by the Red Cross.

studied painting at Chelsea School of Art, going on, as part of an agreement he made with the New Zealand government, to train as a teacher at the Institute of Education, at London University. There he discovered a remarkable natural facility with clay, attending Dora Billington's classes at the Central School of Arts and Crafts and reading Marion Richardson on education and art.

He saw himself doing for ceramics what Richardson had done for painting in schools. In ceramic terms this meant a healthy suspicion of the certainties of Bernard Leach's overnight 1940 classic A Potter's Book. Newland did not like the idea of "sitting in Bloomsbury painting bamboo leaves on pots with a Chinese brush". In 1948 he became a lecturer at the Institute and also gave evening. classes at Central.

His energy and ability drew numerous painters taking an art teacher's diploma to ceramics. Margaret Hine (whom he married in 1950), Nicholas Vergette, James Tower, John Reeve and Ian Auld were all taught by Newland and all went on to become potters of the first rank.

Like many British artists after the Second World War, Newland looked south for inspiration, immersing himself in Mediterranean culture, ancient and modern. In 1949 he travelled in Spain with Margaret Force and served in Greece and Hine and Nicholas Vergette, the Middle East followed by studying country potteries and paying a visit to Malaga to look at tin-glazed Hispano-Moresque wares.

Tin-glaze and the casual light-hearted beauties of Picasso's ceramics came to represent an alternative to the solemn aesthetic of neo-Oriental stoneware. Newland, Hine and Vergette's 1954 show at the Studio Club in Swallow Street revealed the strong influence of Picasso combined with long hours in the British Museum studying Tang horses From 1945 until 1947 he and day figures from Tarentum.

The accessible humanism of Newland's ceramics was recognised by Stnart Mason, the Director of Education for Leicestershire who bought ouasi-religious figurative pieces like Daniel and the Lion and a series of variants on the Flight into Egypt for Devotional Rooms in Leicestershire's bright new schools. Newland's magnificent large bowl of 1955, with a brushed image of Europa and the Bull, suggests his capacity for the grand gesture.

Much of Hine and Newland's joint work of the 1950s and early 1960s enlivened the interiors of coffee bars and restaurants with figurative groups of fishermen and harlequins and women releasing doves or seated on donkeys. In the 1960s they created playful interiors for the Kave brothers' Golden Egg chain of restaurants. Few of these schemes survive, although their voluptuous reliefs of Indian gods and poddesses can still seen at the restaurant Mumtaz near Regent's Park. Underninning all Newland's

work and teaching was a sense of social responsibility and a special kind of robust New Zealand egalitarianism. He was passionate about his role at the Institute of Education. He believed that working with clay was a powerful therapeutic force and that to create in three dimensions was a crucial, ucation, teaching what he called "tactile knowing". He believed at school would result in future it was different generations of better architects, town planners and designers. Partly thanks to Newland and his relations with . county education officers, pottery was taught in most secondary schools after the war and kilns and other equipment

As a member of Sir John Summerson's National Council for Diplomas in Art and Design (NCDAD) Newland also This was very much his creation

were installed.



Tactile knowing': Newland with Rooster, terracotta, 1995

played a crucial part in the cncouragement of ceramics in art schools after 1962. In recent years, to Newland's sorrow, there has been no specialist pot-

tery instructor at the institute. Developments in education if neglected, aspect of visual ed- in the 1980s, especially the shift away from material-based teaching in schools, caused him that giving young children clay much concern. Just after the war

Everyone was full of enthusiasm. We all thought that we were going to change the world. This sort of spirit was in the clay, it was in the paint, in the teaching of painting, in the teaching of craft. Kids were going to paint if they wanted to, pot if they wanted to, weave, book-bind ...

After retirement from fulltime work at the institute in 1982 he continued to run the Bedford Way Gallery in the foyer of the Institute of Education.

and was used to mount a series of stimulating exhibitions looking at craft, art and design in the context of education. The area has now been turned into a bookshop. Retirement also enabled Newland to devote more energy to his own work.

The death of his wife and collaborator Margaret in 1987 hit him hard, but the 1980s and 1990s saw the rediscovery of his work of the 1950s and numerous students and researchers paid him court, charmed by his joie de vivre, by his practical and original theories about education and by his deep understanding of ceramic history and technique. In 1996 he had a splendid retrospective exhibition organised by Aberystwyth Arts Centre which gave him

much pleasure. Newland remained a dash-

Bebe Rebozo

IN ALL aspects bar one, Bebe Rebozo's life was a straightforward tale of poor boy made good

He was born in 1912 the ninth and youngest child of an immigrant Cuban cigar-maker. He worked his way up the business ladder; from petrol-station clerk to petrol-station owner, and then prominent Florida banker, and pillar of the local community, who served as chairman of the Key Biscayne Chamber of Commerce, and in 1976 as commodore of the Key Biscayne Yacht Club. By American standards, pretty routine stuff. What singled Rebozo out was a friendship that lasted more than half a life.

He met Richard Nixon in 1950, the year the future President was first elected to the Senate. For whatever reason, the complex, ambitious, yet deeply insecure young politician and the unassuming and down-to-earth Cuban-American would become soul mates. In the rise, fall and rise again of Richard Nixon, Rebozo was one of the few constants.

In good times as well as bad in Washington, at the presidential retreat of Camp David. at the "winter White House" in . Key Biscayne, on the presiing figure to the end, fond of a dential yacht Sequoia - he was rolled cigarette and a glass of crony, confident and drinking partner to the man he would undener and a superb cook. He til the end of his life address as embodied that optimistic post-"Mr President". Nixon was a war spirit which perceived the political chameleon who could practice of all the arts as a peaceful civilised reparation adopt a dozen personalities but, as his former aide Bill for the miseries and trauma of Safire would write, "When he war. He leaves a daughter, didn't want to be anyone hut Sally, an illustrator and painter, himself, he called for Bebe Rebozo."

Tartya Harrod If friendship is forged in adversity, nothing scaled this Rupert William Newland, potter and one as Watergate. Though he teacher: born Masterton, New Zealand 5 February 1919; Lecturwas never a political or policy adviser in any formal sense, Reer, Institute of Education, London bozo's sheer proximity to Nixon University, part-time 1949-60, 1986-92, full-time 1962-86; Tutor, Cenmade him a target of investigators. He was questioned by tral School of Arts and Crafts Sam Ervin's Senate Select 1949-60; married 1950 Margaret Hine (died 1987; one son, one Committee, for having accepted a cash contribution of morried; died Miami, Florida 8 daughter); died High Wycombe, Buckinghomshire 30 April 1998. \$100,000 to the Nixon campaign May 1998.

from the legendary Howard Hughes, but no wrongdoing was ever proven. Quietly, Rebozo would raise money to help meet the legal expenses of close Nixon retainers like John Erlichman. Never, even in the darkest days, did his loyalty

Few days were darker than August 1974. The Supreme Court had forced Nixon to hand over the "smoking gun" Watergate tapes and, two days earlier, the House Judiciary Committee had voted the first two articles of impeachment. Rebozo flew up from Miami to Washington to join Nixon, and at 7pm that evening the two men boarded the

As they cruised the Potomac river, Nixon told him he had decided to resign. "You can't do it," Rebozo replied. "You have got to continue to fight. You just don't know how many people are still for you." But ultimately even the unbreakably loval Rebozo was persuaded there was no alternative. Eractly a week later, facing certain impeachment, the 37th President stepped down.

If anything, in the bleak aftermath of disgrace, Rebozo's friendship became more valuable still. Nothing cheered Nixon up more than his presence at a surprise 62nd birthday party organised by his wife Pat at San Clemente on 9 January 1975, where the former President was moved to insist the assembled company feast on caviar given him by the Shah of Iran.

A few years later, the public "rchabilitation" of Richard Nixon began. But for Bebe Rebozo, right until the former President's death in 1994, no rehabilitation was ever necessary

Rupert Cornwell Charles Gregory ("Bebe") Rebozo: banker and businessman: born Tampa, Florida 17 November 1912;

Spectacularly generous: Donald Craigmyle

Lord Craigmyle

a name for himself at the post- the RNVR as an ordinary seahis maiden speech: "After a term and a half, Mr President Sir, I feel I have made it. I am on firstname terms with the Editor of the Isis and the Lord Craignryle."

The fact that Douald Craigmyle - "Craigie" to most of his many friends - was distinctly one of the "personalities" of the Oxford of this period represented the successful resolution He was torn hetween acute shyness and an intense love of people and life. He suffered from this, far from rare, conflict in a much more painful sense than do most people, and it never really left him. The successful manner, however, in which he came to terms with it was the key, at least to a great extent, to his many considerable achievements in later life.

Thomas Donald Mackay Shaw was born in 1923, and became the third Lord Craigmyle on the death of his father in 1944. (The first, eunobled in 1929, had been another Thomas Shaw, a former Lord Advocate of Scotland.) The previous year,

AN AMERICAN who created on leaving Eton, he had joined mouse of Lords, in 1945, in his bell-bottomed naval uniform. At Oxford, where he read

Modern History at Corpus Christi College, he was occasionally visited by his mother, to whom he was very close and to whom he was doubly indebted. Through ber, a Mackay, the daughter of the first Earl of Incheape (eminent shipowner of a serious personal problem. and chairman of P & O), be came into an enormous fortune. But he also inherited, in full measure, his mother's wealth of gentleness and chann. Blessed by a total absence of

> snobbery and a splendid gift for mimicry, Donald Craigmyle was invariably the centre, at Oxford gatherings, of a convivial knot of laughing friends. This was especially the case when his mother was present. As she sat in a chair he would crouch or kneel at her side while introducing his friends. His constant fingering of his trim but vigorous red beard was the only outward sign of his nervousness, while his infectious bursts of laughter were famous

throughout the university. His flair with his other qualities had Knights of Malta whose exis- West Highlands) enabled him by a slightly sad look in his fineset eyes when his face was in repose. Few suspected his inner struggle and most presumed he was naturally gregarious.

No successful coming to

terms with so pronounced an extrovert-introvert private con-. flict can he achieved without some paying of a psychological price. So it was with Craigniyle in the post-war years, but his resilience, strengthened by faith, was rewarded by his love-match with Anthea Rich, the gifted artist daughter of the High Anglican Canon Edward Rich. They were married in 1955, Donald following Anthea into the Roman Catholic Church in 1956. Their marriage was a singularly successful partnership in every sense. They had four sons and three daughters; to be the head and centre of a closely knit family was a source of lifelong joy to him.

His distinctly non-combative and sensitive nature would not have fitted him for a conventional business career. But the happy combination of financial

beginning of Britain's most successful and longest-established fund-raising consultancy.

Photograph: Ed Barber

red wine. He was a keen gar-

and a son, Jeremy, a potter.

By the world at large, however, Donald Craigmyle is best remembered for his extensive involvement in charitable activities, predominantly of a Roman Catholic nature. He was also, in his private capacity, spectacularly generous on a scale unknown to most of his friends and even, sometimes, to his own family. Among the many charitable

associations with which he was involved, as chairman, director, active member or substantial contributor, there were at least a dozen in the Roman Catholic field, and an equal number in the secular world. Some of these activities overlapped into both groups such as the Linacre Centre, the Pro-Life Group and the Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child. He was, from 1989 to 1995, President of the British Association of the "Sovereign Military Or-

empire". In 1993 he was awarded the prestigious papal honour of Knight Commander with

His long service on the board of management of London's Hospital of St John and St Elizabeth and his presidencv of the St Thomas Fund for the Homeless (to say nothing of his work with the St John's Ambulance Brigade) contributed to his ease of manner with the sick and dispossessed. It is no exaggeration to say that his rapport with such men and women was truly remarkable.

He was a long-serving member and ultimately President of the Catholic Union of Great Britain, a body monitoring public affairs within a Roman Catholic and general socio-moral context. This usefully complemented his work, for over half a century, as spokesman on such matters in the House of Lords.

The fact that his London home was also his office (he also

beard, moreover, contributed to an important result. His for- tence in Britain has been lik- to combine work with spending war Oxford Union thus began man and he took his seat in the his jaunty air, somewhat belied mation in 1959, with a friend, ened to Voltaire's description of as much time as possible with "neither holy, Roman nor an quently accompanied him on working pilgrimages to Lourdes and elsewhere. His large and lovely house in the Boltons was Star of the Order of Pius IX. also the venue of many notable social and charitable events.

> There were many examples, on such occasions, of the same winning ways he had exhibited at Oxford. A guest who felt momentarily out of things might suddenly have a sausage or canapé popped into his or her startled but delighted mouth by an ever-vigilant host.

Thomas Donald Mackay Shaw, philanthropist: born 17 November 1923: succeeded 1944 as third Baron Craigmyle; chairman, Craigmyle & Co 1959-98; Secretary-General, British Association, Sovereign Military Order of Malta 1979-83, Vice-President 1983-89. President 1989-95; President, Catholic Union of Great Britain 1993-98; married 1955 Anthea Rich (three sons, three daughters, and one son deceased); died der of Malta" - that order of the had a house in Knoydart, in the London 30 Abril 1998.

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, in Memoriam) should be sent in writing to the Gazette Ed-itor, The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wherf, London E14 5DL, telephoned to 077-293 2012 (24-hour answering muchine 0171-293 2011) or faxed to 0171-293 2010, and are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra). OTHER Gazette announceextra). Of their Gazerte announcements (notices, functions, Forth-coming marriages, Marriages) must be submitted in-writing (or faxed) and are charged at £10 a fine, VAT extra. They should be accompanied

The OBITUARIES e-mail address is

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS The Duke of Edinburgh, President and Homonry Life Fellow, attends a reception to amountee the successful conclusion of the William Shapky Ap-peal at the Royal Society for the Encouragement

Changing of the Guard

Birthdays Mr Burt Bacharach, composer, 69; Mr Alan Ball, foutbell manager, 53;

Mr Dominic Cadbury, chairman, Cadbury Schweppes, 58; Sir Cyril Chantler, Principal, United Medical and Dental Schools of Guy's and St Thomas's Hospitals, 59: Mr Michael Coates, former chairman, Price Waterhouse, 74; Miss Susan Hamp-shire, actress, 56; Mr Nicky Henson, actor, 53; Miss Katharine Hepburn, 9t; Mr Henry Hodson, former Provost of Ditchley and former Ed-itor, Annual Register, 92; Baroness Kannedy of the Shaws QC, 48; The Earl of Kimberley, member of the House of Lords Defence Study Group, 74; Lord Laing of Dumphail, life president, United Biscuits, 75; Mr Eric Lyall, chairman, Pearl Group, 74; Sir Roger Moate, former MP, 60; The Right Rev Hugh Montefiore, former Bishop of Birmingham, 78; Ms Jenni Murray, broadcaster, 48; Dr Sam Nujoma, president of Namibia, 69; Mr Chris Patten, former Governor of Hong Kong, 54; Miss Rosalind Savill, Director, the Wallace Collec-tion, 47; Mr Frederick Smithies, schoulteacher and trade union leader. 69; Dr Miriam Stoppard, writer and broadcaster, 61; Miss Deborah Warner, theatre director, 39; Mr Steve Winwood, rock singer and composer, 50; Sir Paul Wright (Life Peer), former Head of the Diplomatic Service, 83.

Anniversaries

Births: Edward Lear, artist, hu-morist and versifier, 1812; Florence Nightingale, pioneer of nursing, 1820; Dante Gabriel Rossetti, poet of nominations is 31 May 1998.

and and painter, 1828; Sir Lennon and and painted, total, in Combon Randal Francis Berkeley, composer, 1903; Wilfrid Hyde White, actor, 1903. Deaths: George Chapman, playwright and translator, 1634; John Smith QC MP, Leader of the Labour Party, 1994. On this day: the General Strike in Britain collapsed, 1936 the coronation of King George Vi and Queen Elizabeth took place 1937; the voting age in Britain was reduced from 21 to 18, 1969. Today is the Feast Day of St Dominic of the Causeway, St Epiphanius of Salamis St Ethelhard, St Germanus of Constantinople, St John Stone, St Modo-aldus, Saints Nereus and Achilleus, S Pancras of Rome and St Rictrudis.

Lectures Victoria and Albert Museum: Ge-Victoria and Albert Pluseum: Oc-officy Opic, "Isokos and 1930s Mod-ernist Furniture", 2-30pm. Tate Gallery: Andrew Rennedy, "Turner and Petworth", 1pm. National Portrait Gallery: John Cooper, "Henry Angelo: Regency aster and author of rem niscences", 1.10pm. London School of Economic (Second Annual Darwin Lecture): Professor Peter Singer, "A Darwin-ian Left?" 5.30pm.

Sheffield University The University of Sheffield is seeking nominations for a successor to Lord Dainton as Chancellor, Nominations may be made in writing to: Dr Juhn Padley, Registrar and Sec-retary, The University of Sheffield,

S10 ZTN. The closing date for receipt

LAW REPORT: 12 MAY 1998

Pregnant woman was entitled to refuse Caesarian

Regina y Collins and others, ex parte S; Court of Appeal (Lady Justice Buder-Sloss, Lord justice judge and Lord justice Robert Walker) 7 May 1998

A PREGNANT woman was entitled to refuse medical treatment even though her own or her unborn child's life depended on it.

The Court of Appeal allowed an appeal against a declaration that St George's Healthcare NHS Trust might carry out investigations and treatment, including Caesarian section by general anaesthetic, on S. who was suffering from severe pre-eclampsia but who refused to consent to such treatment. The court also allowed S's applications for judicial review of decisions to admit her to and detain her at Springfield Hospital under section 2 of the Mental Health Act

1983: to transfer her to and de-

tain and treat her at St tors. The social worker applied Ashford, Bristol) for Puthfinder Men-sent case had involved the re-George's Hospital; to make the application for a declaration; to undertake the medical procedures which culminated in the birth of her child; and to return her to and treat her at Springfield Hospital after the birth.

S had sought to register as a new patient at a local NHS practice. She was approximately 36 weeks pregnant, and had not sought ante-natal care. Pre-eclampsia was diagnosed and she was advised that she needed urgent treatment, including admission to hospital for an induced delivery. Without that treatment her health and life and those of her baby were in danger. She fully understood the potential risks hut rejected the advice, wanting her baby to be born naturally.

S was seen by a social worker approved under the Mental

under section 2 of the 1983 Act tal Health Services Trust and St for S's admission to Springfield Hospital for "assessment", and the two doctors signed the necessary written recommendations. That evening S was admitted to Springfield Hospital against her will.

She was then transferred. again against her will, to St George's Hospital, and in view of her continuing adamant refusal to consent to treatment, an application was made ex parte on hehalf of the hospital authority as a result of which Hogg J granted a declaration which dispensed with S's consent to treatment. That night she was delivered of a baby girl by Caesarian section. Richard Gordon QC and Barbara

Hewson (Leigh Day & Co) for S; Lord Lester of Herne Hill QC and Beverky Lang (Solicitor, Merton Borough Council) for Ms Collins; Philip Hayers Health Act 1983, and two doc- QC and Monica Carrs-Frisk (Bevan

George's Healthcare NHS Trust.

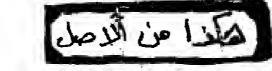
Lord Justice Judge said that even when his or her own life depended on receiving medical treatment, an adult of sound mind was entitled to refuse it. That reflected the autonomy of each individual and the right

of self-determination. While pregnancy increased the personal responsibilities of a woman it did not diminish her entitlement to decide whether or not to undergo medical treatment. An unborn child was not a separate person from its mother. Its need for medical assistance did not prevail over her rights. She was entitled not to be forced to submit to an invasion of her body against her will, whether her own life or that of her unborn

child depended on it. The declaration in the premoval of the baby from within the body of the mother under physical compulsion. That constituted an infringement of the mother's autonomy.

For the purposes of detention under section 2 of the 1983 Act, the detention must be related to or linked with mental disorder. On the basis of the material available to them the social worker and the doctors, both of whom had diagnosed depression, had been entitled to conclude that S was suffering from mental disorder, but those involved in the decision to apply for admission under section 2 had failed to maintain the distinction between S's nrgent need of treatment arising from her pregnancy, and the separate question whether her mental disorder warranted her detention. The application was therefore unlawful.

Kate O'Hanlon, Barrister



BUSINESS

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Official figures confirm recession in manufacturing

Ry Diane Covie Economics Editor

MANUFACTURING output fell for the second successive quarter in January to March, according to official figures yesterday. The decline, although small, put it technically into recession, confirming fears about the damage being done to in-dustry by the strength of the pound.

A separate survey of retail sales last onth suggested consumer spending hight be slowing. Alongside figures showing that inflation at the factory gate is nonexistent, yesterday's batch of evidence was cheering news for those hoping for no further rise in interest rates.

More light on the interest rate debate will be shed by the publication tomorrow of the Bank of England's quarterly Inflation Report and of the latest figures on earnings and unemployment. The danger of overheating in the jobs market poses the biggest remaining risk on the inflation

Manufacturing output was flat in March, and fell 0.1 per cent in the first quarter of the year. Total industrial production, of which manufacturing is the higgest component, fell 0.3 per cent after a drop of nearly 0.9 per cent in the final quarter of last year.

A bounce in oil and gas extraction and the output of the electricity, gas and water industries in March took total production unexpectedly higher during the month. But the underlying annual growth rate in both manufacturing and industry as a whole was little above zero.

Only the engineering industry has withstood recession. Its output climbed 1.9 per cent in the first quarter to a level 3.6

trast, textiles production fell 2.2 per cent to stand 6.8 per cent below its level a year

Separate figures showed a further fall in the cost of manufacturers' raw materials in April. They were down 0.9 per cent during the month and 9.0 per cent year-

The fact that input costs have been falling for more then two years - thanks in large part to the rising pound - has allowed industry to offset rising labour costs and keep prices charged at the fac-

per cent higher than a year ago. In con- tory gate little changed. Output prices rose 0.1 per cent in April, and 1 per cent yearon-year. But much of that rise was due to the increase in excise duties announced in March's Budget.

One question mark hanging over the outlook for the Government's target measure of inflation, the retail price index less mortgage interest costs, is what will happen to prices at the factory gate if the pound falls even further. It has shed 20 pfennigs since hitting its peak of DM3.10 last month.

Another concerns the pace of consumer

spending, which has so far kept retail price inflation stubbornly above its target. The latest survey by the British Retail Consortium showed a bounce in sales in April following a very subdued March.

However, the BRC said taking the two months together suggested a slowdown in the growth of high street spending had begun. The value of sales on a like-for-like basis rose 5.7 per cent in the year to April. up from just 0.4 per cent the previous month. But adjusting for the late Easter this year by taking the two months together suggested sales growth had slowed.

Seagram in talks with PolyGram

Associate City Editor

SEAGRAM, the Canadian drinks and entertainment group whose takeover talks with EMI were abruptly terminated by the British company last week, has switched its arentions to PolyGram, the world's largest music group whose roster of artists includes Elton John, Bon Jovi and Luciano Pavarotti.

Insiders say talks are welladvanced and that a deal could be possible within weeks, valuing the Dutch-based husiness at \$9bn-\$10bn (£5.4bn-£6bn).

Neither side would comment yesterday but it is understood that discussions about a deal have been taking place between the two companies' advisers. Morgan Stanley is acting for Seagram, with Goldman Sachs advising PolyGram.

A deal would transform Seagram's music interests as its Universal/MCA operations are currently ranked a distant sixth in the big league of glohal music companies behind comregies such as PolyGram, Time Namer, EMI and Bertelsmann. Seagram's interest was prompted by last week's announcement from Philips, the Dutch electronics giant, which said it was considering its options over its 75 per cent stake in the busi-

ness. EMI's decision to terminate discussions with Seagram because no firm offer had been received would have provided a further catalyst.

Analysts said a deal between Seagram and PolyGram would be logical, as the two companies have complementary portfolios. MCA's main strength is in the US but it is weak in Europe, where Poly-Gram is a major player.

"It would make sense but not quite as much sense as a Seagram deal with EMI," said one analyst. He pointed out that PolyGram's top management might not be so keen to step aside whereas EMI had already restructured its top positions and currently had no chief executive.

Another said the deal would be "like two drunks leaning against each other for support" as neither MCA nor PolyGram is performing well.

In February PolyGram reported a 9 per cent rise in net income to 787m guilders (£246m) but said it had been affected by the slowdown in music sales and the impact of economic turmoil in the Far

Edgar Bronfman, Seagram's chief executive officer, has been under increasing pressure from investors who are unhappy about the weak performance of the business. They

have been unimpressed by Seagram's sale of its big stake in Du Pont, the US chemicals business, to finance the \$5.7bn purchase of MCA in 1995, Since then the value of Du Pont stock has soared while Seagram's shares have under-per-

formed expectations.

Although Seagram has apparently switched its attentions to PolyGram, analysts said EMI may still not be out of the spotlight. They said that although EMI terminated talks with Seagram last Friday, the Canadian group could still come back with a firm offer.

"If they came back with 650p per share it might he seriously tempting," said one analyst. "One thing that has become clear over the last few weeks is that EMI is obviously in play."

EMI shares fell 38p to 535p as they responded to the company's termination of the Seagram talks, which was made an hour after the stock market closed on Friday.

Both sides have since been trying to claim the upper hand. Sources close to Seagram claim that it was EMI that approached Seagram about a possible deal. This version of events is dismissed by some industry experts, who say it was the Canadians who took the

the MMC is concerned this

Outlook, page 21

Bronfman: they don't understand

HOLDING talks with two mnsic industry majors in the space of a fortnight is testimony to the determination of Edgar Bronfman, Seagram's CEO, to catapult his business into the music business élite. But on Wall Street Mr Bronfman is criticised for considering the purchase of a record company

Many analysts there believe Seagram has enough problems without expanding its MCA-Universal business at a time when the decline of supergroups and the rise of digital recording are undermining its

Mr Bronfman, though, feels people simply don't understand him. He complained at an industry conference in New York in March that some people still believe he bought Universal three years only so be could pursue his side career as a songwriter. His credits include the theme song for last year's Sylvester Stallone film Daylight.

But it is clear that Seagram has been having a tough time. Two films that Universal

was banking on, Primary Col-ors and Mercury Rising, bombed, leading to the departure of several top executives. And the company's main spirits and Tropicana juice business is under pressure in Asia. one of its main markets.

"I'd give him an 'F' for being attumed to shareholder value," said one Seagram investor.

Shareholders are worried about Seagram's foundering share price and a host of unfulfilled promises from the company's high-profile film studio acquired for \$5.7bn in 1995. To finance the acquisition,

42-year-old Mr Bronfman sold Seagram's 23 per cent stake in DuPont, the US chemical company, for \$8.7bo. Today, that investment would be worth



Edgar Brontman, president and chief executive of

\$19.1bn because DuPont's shares have more than donagram's Stock, mean

while, is up just 50 per cent. Outside Steven Spielberg's The Lost World: Jurassic Park last summer, Universal bas not released any blockbusters under Mr Bronfman. This year, Universal ranks sixth among film distributors with just a 6.3 per cent share of the US and Canadian box office.

After the failure of Primary Colors, four executives resigned, increasing the sense of

turmoil in Universal City. Mr Bronfman has engibusiness. neered the sale of most of the company's television busi-

nesses, including the USA Network and Sci-Fi cable channels, to Barry Diller's Home Shopping Network. He is also trying to get Hollywood to deal with the problem of runaway costs. He has brought in consultants and managers who have wrung out more than \$100m in cost savings from the

Seagram though profitable theme-park

He said at an industry conference in March that Universal is ahead of schedule in its five-year recovery plan. He also said this week that Seagram has no plaus to separate its entertainment and beverage businesses.

"We have taken Seagram through a dramatic transformation, increased operating profit and increased the value of the assets we own," he said.

- Bloomberg

Second approach may start **Courtaulds** bidding war

By Nigel Cope Associate City Editor

COURTAULDS, the coatings and fibres group which last month agreed a £1.8bn offer from the Dutch chemicals group Akzo Nobel, revealed yesterday it had received a second bid approach which analysts said could lead to a bidding war for the company.

The second bidder is widely thought to be either PPG Industries or Sherwin Williams. two US paint groups which were both thought to be looking at Courtaulds before it agreed the 450p per share offer from Akzo Nobel.

Courtaulds, one of Britain's oldest companies, revealed the second approach in its recommended offer document by Akzo Nobel which it posted yesterday. However, Courtaulds said no offer had been received and it was not possible to determine whether a firm offer would be forthcoming. It said it still considered the Akzo Nobel offer fair and reasonable and that its board was unanimous-

/ recommending it. Sherwin is the market leader in the American paints industry and has been expanding into South America. PPG has also been expanding and last year bought some Italian and German automotive coatings husinesses. Analysts said other bidders could include ICI, which has been completing a radical overhaul of its chemicals operations. However, it is understood that ICI management is cool on the idea of entering the fray at current prices. Courtaulds shares rose 25p to 464p

valuing Courtaulds at £1.9bn. Martin Evans at Sutherlands, the stockbrokers, repeated his statement that Courtaulds was "seriously under-valued" at 450p per share given its rarity value and its prime market positions in sectors such as the marine, aerospace and protective coatings industries as well as its polymers business. "You won't be able to build market positions like these. You would need to buy them," he said. He put a possible take-out price of 600p

per share on the company. Akzo said it has "sufficient financing available" should the need arise to re-think its position.

Analysts believe any interoper would have trouble dislodging Akzo unless it had a very well defined plan for the Courtaulds fibres business.

Akzo wants to spin off the operation along with its own fihres business. "You can see how it works for Akzo. It's a bit harder to see how it works for one of the big paint companies," said Peter Cartwright at Williams de

Underwriting 'has monopolies'

By Lea Paterson

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THE Monopolies and Mergers Commission (MMC) has provisionally found there are "complex monopolies" operating in the provision of underwriting services for new hare issues on the stock market which "prevent, restrict, or distort competition".

However, the MMC is yet to decide whether these monopolies operate against the public interest. The MMC can only push for change in the industry if the monopolies operate, or are expected to operate, against the public interest.

The MMC's provisional findings are contained in a standard "issues letter" circulated to all interested parties. For the first time, the MMC has published the letter, which also conseins "hypothetical" recomittendations for change - fee by lead underwriters, and

known as "remedies".

According to Denise Kingsmill, deputy chairman of the MMC and chairman of the underwriting inquiry, the publication of the issues letter was intended to stimulate debate and to shed light on the workings of the MMC. The decision to publish was not sparked by the complexity of the issues under discussion, Ms Kingsmill said.

The MMC has provisionally concluded that there are complex monopolies in both the supply of lead underwriting services and the supply of subunderwriting services. A complex monopoly exists if there is a group of firms with at least a 25 per cent market share whose actions "prevent, restrict or distort competition".

Most companies are charged a standard 2 per cent

charging structure reflects a fundamentally uncompetitive market. If the market was fully competitive, the MMC said it "would expect fees to vary with risk" -- that is, riskier share issues should be more ex-

> nensive. The MMC's issues letter asks members of the underwriting industry whether they believe the charging structure damages "the public interest". Among other things, industry participants have been asked to consider whether the cost of underwriting has been artificial-

inflated, whether underwriting fees are sufficiently transparent and whether firms wishing to provide underwriting or sub-underwriting services are being denied the opportunity to do so.

The issues letter also sets down 15 potential "remedies"

INTEREST RATES

the MMC could employ if it decided the complex monopolies "operate, or could be expected to operate, against the pub-lic interest". The remedies, which are "entirely hypothetical", include mandatory tendering for sub-underwriting and the capping of sub-under-

writing fees.

The MMC could require financial advisers to inform issuing companies of the alternatives to paying standard fees for share underwriting, or could recommend lead underwriters be appointed by competitive tender. It could also ask the Office of Fair Trading to monitor the sector for a further

The MMC is scheduled to report its findings to the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry on 20 November, exactly a year after the industry was referred for investigation.

Watchdog investigates share shop blunders in flotation of Thomson

business. And he is expanding

the company's lesser-known

By Andrew Yates

SHARE shops involved in the flotation of Thomson Travel are under investigation from the Securities and Futures Authority (SFA), the industry regulatory, over the administrative errors which caused tens of thousands of potential investors to miss out on shares.

The SFA has acted on numerous complaints from private investors by contacting share shops to seek an explanation. It could force the brokers to compensate the huge number of people who have not been able to buy shares and has the power to levy fines if its finds they have been at fault.

Thousands of investors who registered early for shares failed to receive application forms in time. Share shops

DM/S

CURRENCIES

also failed to cope with the huge rush of investors who registered at the last moment. Those who were awarded an allocations saw their shares gain 23.5p on the 170p flotation price.

Share shops involved in the flotation include The Share Centre, Barclays Stockbrokers. Hargreaves Landsdown, NatWest Stockbrokers and Skipton Building Society.

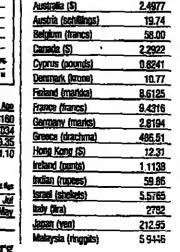
Thomson has tries to placate investors by offering them the chance to enjoy flotation perks such as 10 per cent off all the holidays. But these investors will have to buy shares at a higher price in the market to receive discounts on holidays after 31 December. And Thomson has come under fire for not allocating extra shares in the flotation to those who missed out through no fault of their own.

The sharp rise in the share price means Thomson's directors, led by Paul Brett, the chief executive, are already sitting on a profit of more than £750,000 from the shares they were able to purchase in the flotation.

Mr Brett said: "I am absolutely delighted at the level of support we had at the flotation from the public. We believe we have come up with a fair compromise for those people that missed out on the shares. They can get 10 per cent off their holidays which is worth £125 for an average family up to December and keep their £500 in the bank and earn interest on it."

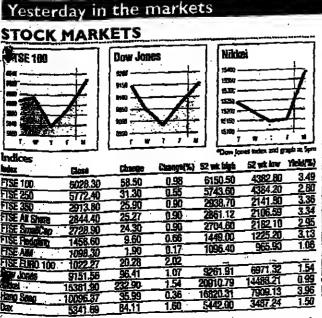
Thomson Corporation of Canada, which sold the tour opcrator, is expected raise a minimum of £1.25bn from the sale, representing a gain to the parent company of about £813m.





Mana (82)	<u>881<i>0.</i>U</u>
Mexican (nuevo peso)	12.64
Netherlands (qualders)	3.1652
New Zealand (S)	2.9210
Norway (krone)	11.83
Portugal (escudos)	285.38
Saudi Arabia (rials)	5 9676
Singapore (S)	2.5269
Spain (pesetas)	238.41
South Africa (rands)	7.9565
Sweden (krone)	12.14
Switzerland interiosi	2.3588
Thadand (bahts)	57.20
Tyrkey flirasi)	393192
USA (S)	.5998
Rates for indication	purposes on

Source: Thomas Cook



UK 10 year off US long bond MAIN PRICE CHANGES

OTHER INDICATORS նեց Դի հայ

www.bloomberg.com/uk

source: Bloomberg

1.6233 2.7827

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN EDITED BY ANDREW YATES

CWC looks serious now

IT WILL take some more time, but Cable & Wireless Communications may yet turn itself from the ugly duckling of the telecoms sector into something resembling an elegant swan.

When the business was thrown together through the merger of long-distance operator Mercury and three cable companies last year, it seemed doubtful that CWC would ever be a credible competitor to the likes of British Telecom.

Thirteen months, thousands of redundancies and a £200m restructuring charge later, that proposition no longer seems so laughable. Although CWC's poor network means it is losing ground in the business market, the company has embarked on a £400m upgrade which should enable it to face the competition on level terms.

Meanwhile Head Start, a cheap package combining cable television and cable telephony, bas proved popular with residential customers. Penetration rates have risen from 27 to 29 per cent, while over half of those customers now take both the television and telecoms services, compared with 47 per cent last year. Churn rates - the proportion of customers cancelling their service - did rise but this is at least partly down to CWC weeding out persistent late payers,

Looking ahead, there is digital television. Cable TV has, until now, been a carbon copy of the offerings from the likes of Sky. In the digital era. however, CWC will be able to offer all the 200 channels planned by Sky while also offering access to the internet - through the television - at many times the speed currently available. What's more, CWC subscribers won't have to fork out £200 for a sel-top box, as they will with other digital television services.

This is a long-term prospect. Yet Graham Wallace, CWC's chief executive, is bullish enough to promise 15 per cent revenue growth this year. Add in widening margins as the benefits of restructuring flow through and owth prospects look good. That said, the shares have had a fantastic run, more than dou-November. They put on 7.5p to 451.5p yesterday, and now times this year's forecast earnings. Not cheap, but still a good long-term bet.

DCC keeps in focus

"CONGLOMERATE" has 600p yesterday, putting them been a dirty word in the City for the last few years. The sector's rating has plunged and in- enough for the time being.

COMPANY RESULTS

Batt Gres (1)

Turnover £ Pre-tax £

(F) - Final (1) - Interior † EPS is pre-exceptionals "Dividend to be paid as a RD

Pay rise

Our Corporate Bond PEP could give

you a higher tax-free income.

8AN - 8PM WEEKDAYS 9AN - 5PM WEEKENDS PLEASE QUOTE REF: C7DJ20

Corporate Bond PEP

71.98m (70 00m) 4.909m (6.079m) 12.62p (15.59p) 5.42p (4.93p)

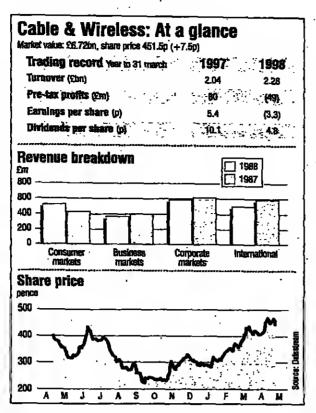
23.99m (15.95m) 1 508m (1.114m) 7.46p (5.61p) 2.05p (1.90p)

IR702.75m (627.66m) 36.51m (35.47m) 35.50p (35.47) 9.6p (6.0p) 29.93m (22.64m) 9.53m (3.32m) 31.34p (9.05p) 0.5p (-)

75.9m (80.30m) 7.805m (5.81m) 14.6 (13.4p) 5.55p (2.5p)

32.16m (18.83m) 6.609m-(2.656m) 17.78p (7.25p) 6.0p (3.0p)

17.66m (14.96m) 0.423m (0.204m) 2.5p (1.3p) - (-)



vestment bankers, who never like to miss the chance of Game on bringing in new fees, have managed to hreak up almost everything in sight.

So it is not surprising that Dublin-based DCC went out of its way yesterday to label itself a focused company, even though it just happens to have four separate divisions which little in common with each other. Jim Flavin the group's chief executive, who has been building the company up since 1976, also claimed DCC was not just driven by acquisitions like an old-fashioned conglomerate and has made its mark by achieving strong organic growth.

But perhaps the main thing that separates DCC from other conglomerates is its share price, which has risen sharply over the last 12 months.

Turnover in the year to the end of March rose 15 per cent to IR£703m and profits after excluding exceptional items in the previous year rose 16 per cent to IR£36.7m.

DCC Sercom's computer hardware and software distrihution businesses enjoyed a 31 per ceot rise in sales although margins suffered slightly as a result of a changing mix of busioess. DCC Energy enjoyed a rebound in profits and margins from the distribution of liquified petroleum gas. DCC hling in value since last Foods is poised to supply its Kelkin brand of bealthfoods into the UK market, while the trade on a multiple of 33 'smallest division, DCC Healthcare strengthened its grip on the small but profitable busi-

> wheelchairs to help the affluent elderly get about. Profits beat forecasts and analysts' predictions for the current year have edged up to £41m. The shares rose 15p to on a forward p/e of 16. After the strong run that looks high

oess supplying scooters and

for float

GAME, the computer games retailer that is coming to the stock market next month, has timed its flotation well. Its début will be buoyed by the terrific run of Electronics Boutique, the only directly comparable quoted company, whose shares have tripled in the last year. Both companies have been growing rapidly and this is likely to result in Game's shares being priced at a premium to the retail sector, valuing Game at £120m-£140m.

Game has larger stores than its main rival, though fewer of them. However, it has ambitious plans to increase its portfolio from the current 61 to around 120 in the medium term.

Game sells console hardware from the likes of Sony, Sega and Nintendo as well as software and other acces-

Its approach seems to be working. The company's pathfinder prospectus yesterday forecasts pre-tax profits of £7.1m in the year to 3 May compared with just £400,000 in the previous year. Sales are forecast to have jumped from £52.3m to £77.6m.

With 13 per cent of the UK entertainment software market which is growing fast on the hack of expanding PC sales, the company is well placed to grow further.

This is expected to be reflected in the company's rating, which is likely to be at a premium to the retail sector average of 17. Given that the float is a placing with institutions and there is no intermediaries offer, much will depend not just on the pricing hut the shares' performance on the first day of dealings. Even so, they are worth a look.

Smurfit plans \$4.3bn merger with Stone and Europe, the chairman and CEO of aging industries caused by the creation Latin America, and Enrope, with 11 per cent of global container board sales.

IRISH-BASED Jefferson Smurfit yesterday triggered a major rationalisation move in the paperboard and packaging industries. Jefferson Smarfit Group (JSG) will merge its 46 per cent-owned US subsidiary Jefferson Smurfit Corporation (JSC) with the lossmaking Chicago-based Stone Container Corporation to form Smurfit-Stone. Container Corporation, a listed US company with a market capitalisation of \$4.3hn (£2.6bn), in which Jefferson Smurfit will own a 34 per cent stake.

The combined company would create one of the world's largest manufacturers of paperboard and paper-based packaging products, with annual sales of around \$8bu and operations in the US depressed market in paper and pack-

Smurfit will become non-executive chairman of the new company. Roger Stone will be chief executive officer, while JSC will provide the deputy chief executive and chief financial officer.

It also starts life with massive com-

bined debts of \$6.4bn. After shoulder-

ing heavy interest charges of \$650m, JSC

barely broke even and Stone Container lost \$593m last year. The merger will create operational savings of \$350m a year. The group also intended to sell \$2.5bn worth of assets, including the Canadian newsprint and pulp mills within the next 18 months, Mr Smurfit said yesterday. He expects to realise assets at a reasonable price, on the grounds that the

ue of assets is beginning to rise.

The newly merged company made a good strategic fit, and was expected to be "earnings-accretive and cash-flow positive" in 1999, the company's statement said. The North American container board operations of JSC and Stone are complementary, and the merged company has substantial manufacturing capacity in Germany and Belgium where JSG is weak, and is less important in France and Spain, where JSG has substantial operations.

The deal will focus the business on packaging materials, its core competence, the company said yesterday. Together, JSG and the new company will be the market leader in North America.

fit will buy in 20 million shares in its subsidiary from a leveraged fund for \$500m. at an average price of \$25 a share, a substantial premium to the market price, reducing the fund's stake from 30 per cent of JSC to 9 per cent in the enlarged conspany. Existing investors in JSC and Stone Container will hold roughly equal stakes in the remaining 57 per cent of the cu-

larged company. Shares in Jefferson Smurfit Corporation rose \$3 to \$22 yesterday, Stone Container sharesclimbed \$1 to \$21 and Jefferson Smurfit Group shares in Loadon also rose 14.5p to a new peak of

Shareholders feel the pain of Bolton's fall



The Bolton bench feel the agony as Chelsea send the club back to the First Division

By Andrew Yates

THE growing financial gulf between football clubs in the Premier League and those in the First Division was thrown into sharp focus again yesterday when shares in Burnden Leisure collapsed after Bolton Wanderers, the club it owns, crashed out of the game's top flight.

Bolton Wanderers'. disastrous 2-0 defeat at the hands of Chelsea at the weekend consigned the team to the First Division after only one season back in the Premiership. The result saw £6m wiped off the

stock market value of Burnden Leisure vesterday. The shares tumbled by more than a fifth to 17p, down 5p, as the City anticipated a sharp drop in prof-

Bolton will miss out on millions of pounds worth of television income which they would have been entitled to in the Premier League as part of a lncrative contract with BSkyB, the satellite broadcaster.

Gate revenues and merchandise sales are also bound to suffer in the First Division. with the lack of high profile opponents likely to attract small-

The defeat for Bolton was particularly cruel for shareholders, who have already had a terrible season. Burnden's shares have slumped from a peak of 62.5p last year. They had begun to recover as hopes of Premier league survival gained ground, only for investors to see Bolton fall at the final hurdle by losing their last match of the

However Bolton, which have recently built a new state-ofthe-art stadium, still have a strong local support and analysts believe the club could still be profitable in the First

Pearson confirms interest in buying parts of Viacom

THE MEDIA group Pearson yesterday confirmed it was considering opportunities arising out of the US group Viacom's plans to sell its publishing business. Pearson did not give details but the industry expects the British company, which publishes the Financial Times, to bid for part of Viacom's Simon & Schuster subsidiary. In a brief statement Pearson said it "confirms that it is considering the opportunities arising from Viacom Inc's planned disposal of some of its publishing businesses." Viscom's disposals is expected raise between \$4bn and \$5bn. Analysts said that a purchase of Simon & Schuster would make Pearson one of the world's biggest educational publishers. Pearson is a major player in the US educational market through its Addison Wesley Longman unit. Pearson's share price was down 7p at 938p.

BA scorns Branson allegations

BRITISH AIRWAYS yesterday hit back at claims by Richard Branson, the boss of Virgin Atlantic, that its reward schemes for trave el agents were anti-competitive. Virgin has lodged a complaint with the European Commission which is investigating BA's prac-; tice of paying agents a higher rate of commission they more flights they sell. Peter White, BA's director of sales, said such schemes were standard practice. "To suggest, as Richard Branson does, that our reward schemes are anti-competitive, is hypocrisy," he said. "Virgin uses similar schemes and Mr Branson knows it."

Hambros insurance arm sold

HAMBROS, the UK financial services group, has sold its 52 per cent stake in Hambro Insurance Services (HIS) to Lindsey Morden Group of Canada for £45m. It has already sold its banking unit to Societe Generale of France and most of its remaining activities to Investee of South Africa. Separately, shareholders approved the demerger of Hambros Countrywide, the estate agency.

Cox Plant sold for £49.6m

ANDREW SYKES Group, the air conditioning and heating specialist, has agreed to purchase Cox Plant Hire from logistics and hire group Transport Development Group for £49.6m. TDG said the sale was in line with its plan to refocus the business on core logistics markets announced on 23 February. The group's strategy review aims to return funds of up to £109m to shareholders.

Senior buys into Brazil

SENIOR Engineering has agreed to buy three Brazilian companies for about £12m in cash. Senior Engineering said the proforma consolidated sales of the three Sao Paulo-based companies were £11.8m and pre-tax profits were £2.3m. Deltaterm Industria c Comercio Ltda and Tetlex Industria e Comercio both make automotive exhaust decouplers. Tecne SA Industria e Comercio manufactures expansion joints and flexible metallic hoses to the petrochemical, mining and general industrial markets.

Property chief denies sale

ALLIED London Properties said there was no truth in speculation that chairman Geoffrey Leigh was trying to sell his 15 per cent stake in the firm. Mr Leigh said: "I wish to make it absolutely clear that I bave not, as is alleged, put the company up for sale'. nor have I appointed Paul Orchard-Lisle of Healey & Baker 'to find a buyer." A report bad said he was attempting to sell his stake through Healey & Baker, the property consultant.

Venture group buys packers

A VENTURE capital consortium of CVC/Cinven has bought the packaging division of Dutch Koninklijke KNP BT for 3.4on guilders (£1.04bn) in cash. Cinven and CVC said they planned to float the packaging division, which will be renamed Kappa Packaging, on the Amsterdam stock exchange at a later date.

Strong start for Marshalls

MARSHALLS, the building materials group, said it had started 1998 on a strong note with its turnover in the first four months 11 per cent ahead compared with last year. The outcome for the year is now likely to significantly ahead of current market expectations," the company said. The shares closed up 17p, at 156.5p.

Network goes to SDX

SDX Business Systems has bought Network Alchemy for an injtial consideration of £2.6m in cash and a deferred consideration of up to 3.27 million SDX shares, subject to performance, over the three year period from February 1998. It said the acquisition was in line with its strategy of extending its addressable market of prospective customers world-wide and focusing on convergent

Northern Leisure price slips

SHARES in Northern Leisure, the discotheque and bowling alleys group, fell sharply after it said it had terminated takeover talks after no offer for the company was made. The shares closed at 505.5p, a fall of 36p. Northern Leisure had said on 26 March it was in talks which might lead to an offer being made.

Horrobin quits Scotia in dispute over chief

By Andrew Yates

A SIMMERING boardroom row at Scotia, the drugs group, burst out into the open yesterday when Dr David Horrobin, the company's founder, resigned from his role as non-executive director.

Scotia said Dr Horrobin had stood down following a dispute about the appointment of Dr Robert Dow as chief executive of the group.

Dr Dow replaced Dr Horrobin as head of the group at the start of this year. However tensions between the two men bave heen running high since then and Dr Horrobin has mounted a campaign among other directors to force Dr

Dow out of his new position. The boardroom battle is complicated by the fact that Dr Horrobin was responsible for hiring Dr Low last September as the company's medical and development director.

Dr Horrobin is understood to bave been unhappy at the radical changes Dr Dow has sought to introduce, including cutting down the group's prod-



Dr David Horrobin, founder of Scotia

uct portfolio from 20 drugs to five to concentrate on its cancer treatments

Scotta said in a statement yesterday: "The board believes tbat it is essential that all directors should support Dr Robert Dow, who was unanimously appointed chief executive on 1 January 1998, his management team and his re-

vised strategy for Scotia. "Dr Horrobin, who first recommended Dr Dow to Scotia. far from offering his support, sought to convince the board that it should remove Dr Dow yesterday.

from his position. In the light of the foregoing, the board requested the resignation of Dr Horrobin. Scotia claims the board remained unanimously behind

Dr Horrobin's departure ture of his and his family's 17 per cent stake in Scotia, which is worth almost £51m, into doubt. He has undertaken not

ing until pext year, but could sell

Dr Dow and his future plans for

4 million shares immediately. His departure also comes at an awkward time for Sberri Clarkson, Dr Horrobin's wife. She has already decided to step down as managing director of Scotia's drug discovery division, a position that drew criticism from some analysts who cast doubts about her qualifications for the job. However she is not due to leave the compa-

my until the end of June. The news of Dr Horrobin's departure was met with amhivalence in the City and Scotia's share rose 1p to 387.5p

Under Dr Horrohin, Scotia's reputation among analysts had hecome tarnished after the shares had undergone a rollercoaster ride and fallen from a peak of 808p in 1996.

Dr Horrobin signed an agreement with Scotia when be stood down as chief executive from the group throws the fu- to act as a consultant for the group for £50,000 a year. It was unclear yesterday if be would continue in this role but Scotia said be will not be entitled to to sell a large part of his bold- any pay-off on stepping down as a non-executive director.

Dr Horrobin will now concentrate on building up his new company Scarista, which has bought an exclusive licence covering all technology related to Scotia's research and development on psychiatry, asthma and central nervous system treatments.

Scotia is the drugs company behind Olibra, the new ingredient used in yoghurts which makes you feel fuller for longer. The yoghurts have already hit UK supermarket shelves and the group has recently teamed up with St Ivel to create a new range of desserts.



OUTLOOK ON RECORD COMPANIES IN A SPIN; WHERE BRANSON FINDS START-UP CAPITAL: AND HOW VW IS NEAR THE WINNING LINE

Jilted EMI has to prove its worth now

ED BRONFMAN of Seagram seems to be putting it around with the abandon of an ageing rock star io his attempt to find a music company to dally with. First EMI, oow PolyGram. If there were anyone else it was possible to flirt with, Mr Bronfman would be in there.

But then again, perhaps it was the other way round. Was it EMI, desperate to be taken over, which like some young groupie approached him? Realising there was an arguably more attractive prize on offer, EMI's advances were brushed aside, and Seagram turned its attentions instead to PolyGram. The spin being applied to events by all parties makes it unlikely we'll never get to the bottom of what happened.

Whatever the truth, the episode has left EMI looking jilted and just a little foolish. Coming oo top of the management upheavals of the last few months, this has giveo the impressioo of a company all at sea and in some need of assistance. So what future for EMI now?

In the City it is quite widely believed that the industry is ripe for consolidation and that EMI would inevitably, as the only independently quoted company of size, play a pivotal role in any such restructuring. But actually this is the teast likely outcome. The big five record companies of EMI, Sony, Time Warner, PolyGram and Bertlesmann, already have about 75 per cent of the market between them.

In this respect, the music industry is quite unlike other businesses gripped by the consolidation bug. For instance, if the world's two biggest pharmaceuticals companies were to merge, it would create a

behemoth for sure, but even so the new monster wouldn't have more than 10 per cent of the world market for prescribed drugs. The same is not true for music. Any combination of alternatives within the big five would run into severe regulatory difficulties, particularly io the US.

Obviously there is no such stumbling block for those from outside the industry, or with only a limited presence in it (like Seagram or Disney). The music industry is notoriously badly and under managed. Its poor operating margins are a constant source of amazement to analysts. The reasons for this are many and varied but the most important is the self evident one that many of those who work in it regard it as a life style business. As one seasoned City observer puts it, "there are an awful lot of snouts in the trough" (double meaning intended). It may be possible, then, to extract much better value out of these businesses than they presently yield.

However, EMI is one of the better managed companies in the business, despite the apparent turmoil at the top. Furthermore, there is little evidence that Seagram, or even Disney, could do the job any better. Seagram's recent record, both strategically and in terms of core performance has been at best mixed. Investors have also fallen out of love with Disney. It is not certain either would be doing their shareholders a service by paying the necessary bid premium.

Part of EMT's problem with the City has been that expectations of its value were driven to exaggerated heights. By the same token, though, Sir Colin Southgate, the

at little more than £6 a share undervalues the company. Now that he's been forced, reluctantly, to return to his day job, the pressure is on for him to prove he's right, for it may well be that there's no one either allowed or prepared to bid much more.

How Virgin invests in the future

RICHARD Branson was in New York yesterday for the US launch of Virgin Cola. On this side of the Atlantic, however, the talk, once again, was not about fizzy drinks hut whether and if so when he will float his airline, Virgin Atlantic.

To the Bransonologists, those who follow every twist and turn of his complicated business affairs, the two story lines may be related. The Virgin Cola story has gone a bit flat. It is one of those rare phenomena - a product that has not responded to the Virgin brand magic. Virgin has now taken full control of the Cola business and, while it remains a small part of the overall empire, it will continue to consume cash and offer only losses in return for some while yet.

The picture is similar at a number of other Branson joint ventures such as the financial products business Virgin Direct, Virgin Spirits and Virgin Cinemas. The Bransoo camp retorts that this is only natural in early, start-up years of such ventures.

But the daddy of them all, when it comes to risk and investment, is Virgin Trains. The word is that despite their abysmal reputation, the two franchises - the West Coast

profitable and that Mr Branson will prove the doubters wrong when he successfully floats the business this summer.

Unfortunately, those profits are built on the back of fat subsidies from the taxpayer. From 2002 onwards, Virgin starts to pay an annual rental for the West Coast Line and, by 2012 will have made net payments to the Government of nearly £1bn. In order to make the business pay its way. Virgin will have to double passenger numbers. This is a tall order when the £2bn modernisation of the line will almost certainly mean services deteriorating before they get better.

On top of that, Virgin is introducing tilting trains for both the West Coast and Cross Country franchises at a cost of well over £1bn. Virgin argues that the rental charges will be met out of profits while the rolling stock orders will be off balance sheet since it will merely lease the trains.

Even so, Mr Branson will still require an awful lot of capital to drive the nontravel businesses forward. When he was in a similar fix in 1992 he sold his most profitable business, Virgin Music, to EMI This time around the cashcow could be Virgin Atlantic which, according to the more heroic estimates, could raise as much as £1bn. And anyway, airline floats are all the rage. Just look at Mr Bransoo's other quoted airline, Virgin Express, which has risen in value by a half since flotation.

No one at Virgin is anxious to talk up the story. For one thing, it might suggest the train flotation is running off the tracks.

chairman is absolutely right to believe a bid Mainline and Cross Country Trains - are But Mr Branson would not be the opportunist be is if he were not seriously tempted by the idea. And, as the Bransonologists know, it would not be the first time Virgio has sold off its past to finance its future.

BMW falls behind in race for Rolls

THE ROLLS-ROYCE takeover saga shifts a gear to Munich today where Bernd Pischetsrieder, the BMW chairman, will tell his annual shareholders' meeting how he intends to see off the rival bidder Volkswagen. Even though VW's bid is a full £90m higher, BMW mysteriously continues to see its offer as the more attractive one. Unless they have a crank shaft loose, not many shareholders in Vickers, Rolls parent company, are likely to share

Thus far the Bavarian tactics have consisted of a series of spoiling manoeuvres to block the sale to VW. It is threatening 10 withdraw its engines if Rolls becomes part of the VW stable. And if that does oot work, it is relying upon its pals at the aero-engine maker Rolls-Royce PLC to play hard ball over transferring the Rolls-Royce mark and trade name to VW. Neither gambit looks likely to succeed. VW can find a new source of engines and Rolls-Royce will be hard pushed to argue that one giant German car owner is a less suitable bome for the marque than another. Mr Piscbetsrieder will bave to up the ante if he wants a Roller to adorn the oext annual report to shareholders.

US telecom firms in \$61 bn deal

By David Usborne in New York

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CONSOLIDATION in the American telephone companies entered a new orbit yesterday following an announcement from SBC Communications that has agreed to acquire Ameritech Corp for about \$61ba (£37bn), making it the biggest merger ever in the industry and the second

biggest in all corporate history. The deal, which is certain to provoke intense scrutiny from regulators in Washington, marks the next whase in the transformation of SBC com one of the seven Baby Bells created after the 1984 break-up of the old AT&T to a domestic telephone powerhouse stretching from Detroit to Los Angeles and Houston.

It will also send seismic ripples through the entire industry. The size of the deal is such that it even eclipses the \$37bn that WorldCom is proposing to pay for MCI Communications, which at one time was destined to fall into British Telecom's hands

until that transaction fell to pieces. More broadly, the price being offered by SBC means this should measure up as the second largest merger ever between corporations after the \$73bn proposed marriage between Citicorp and Travelers Corp that was unveiled just last mooth.

SBC has established itself as a predator with a voracious appetite. After existing since 1984 as Southwestern Bell, covering states like Texas, Oklahoma and Missouri, it expanded its base exponentially last year with the \$16.5bn purchase of Pacific Telesis, gaining California and Nevada. Earlier this year it also swallowed Connecticut-based Southern New England Telecommunications

With yesterday's announcement, SBC will stand accused of trying to reverse the break-up of the old bell system to establish a new domestic monopoly. Such criticism was fended sible combinations.

off, however, by Ed Whitacre, the SBC Chairman.

"The Bell system had national monopoly," he insisted. "This merger talks about 12 states, not 50."

However, the new company, to be called SBC, would serve customers in the top 50 US telephone markets. For these reasons, most analysts did not expect the deal to go through smoothly and certainly not in the 12-month window set by Mr Whitacre yesterday. Reflecting a cautious reaction on Wall Street, shares in SBC fell \$2.626 in morning trading. Ameritech, the principal phone company for the Midwest, rose \$3.25 to \$47.125.

The deal may also give pause to champions of telecom deregulation on Capitol Hill in Washington, who surely never foresaw that the rampant consolidation of the last several mooths, which has also included the combination of Nynex and Bell Atlantic on the East Coast, would turn out to be the principle result.

"I doo't think there is any question there will be a firestorm from regulators, consumer groups, longdistance carriers ... arguing that the Telecom Act was not intended to put Humpty Dumpty back together again," said Scott Wright, an analyst with Fahnestock & Co in New York.

Pressure will now intensify on the other phone companies to find oew partners of their own, including the new AT&T which until now has remain aloof from the marrying frenzy. Criticising SBC's move, AT&T said yesterday the deal "creates no local competition and delivers no consumer benefits"

In an ironic twist, however, AT&T was itself the subject of speculation last year that it was about to get into bed with SBC. Observers predict AT&T will be forced to find an alliance with another of the remaining Baby Bells. An AT&T marriage with the new Bell Atlantic would be the most dramatic of pos-



French economy minister Dominique Strauss-Kahn tips the first euro coins into a container at France's official mint in Pessac near Bordeaux yesterday, making France the first single currency nation to produce the money

Political foes line up to sing the euro's praises

By Diane Coyle **Economics Editor**

A CAMPAIGN to help Britain learn to love the euro was launched yesterday by the the 25th anniversary of Britain joining the European Union.

Two government ministers -Peter Mandelson, Minister without Portfolio, and Lord sponsible for EU affairs - lined path to greater prosperity. up with opposition politicians, the director general of the CBI and the general secretary of the TUC to emphasise the importance of European integration.

Mr Mandelsoo described the past quarter century as a time "in the main of missed opportunity. We are determined that things are going to be different from now on."

He added: "No one should uoder-estimate the potential of the euro."

One of the many MPs pre- our lives."

sent at yesterday's launch said: "The significant thing about this event is that it marks the professionalisation of the pro-Emn campaign,"

A report prepared for the European Movement, marking European Movement, a pressure group with cross-party support, by Andersen Consulting on the economic gains of a quarter century of EU membership suggested membership Simon, the DTI minister re- of the single currency was the

The 25 years since Britain enormous improvements. Not only do many more Britons take foreign holidays, own telephones, TVs and other consumer goods, but the pattern of trade and investment has also tilted us decisively towards the Continent.

Lord Simon said: "We have hecome European through trade. We may oot all feel it. but it has become the reality of

The report showed that the share of British exports to the EU had nearly doubled from around 30 per cent to 60 per cent between 1973 and oow. Many of the biggest inward investors in Britain are European companies. UK membership of the EU also explained Britain's attractiveness to overseas investors from the US and Asia.

Vernon Ellis of Andersen Consulting predicted the single currency would boost the member economics. "There is no joined the Common Market - as doubt in my mind that it will act it was then known - have seen as a powerful lever to improve competitiveness within the euro zone," be said.

A survey the consultancy conducted into business attitudes to the single currency revealed the proportion believing Emu would be good for Britain had risen from 27 per cent to 67 per ceot. But Mr Ellis said a clear lead from the Government would generate even greater

Fund managers see single currency eclipsing sterling

UK FUND managers believe interest rates have peaked and the economy is slowing, and anticipate a further weakening of sterling, according to a survey published yesterday.

The latest Merrill Lynch/ Gallup survey also found UK managers were optimistic about the euro, with 45 per cent expecting it to be the strongest major currency on a year's view.

Trevor Greetham, global strategist at Merrill Lynch said the "messy political compromise" over the presidency of the European Ceotral Bank had made it more fashionable to say the euro would be a weak currency. However, relative two years. "Fund managers ic prospects.

Sumitomo pays £5m to UK regulator

interest rates also played a major part in a curreocy's strength, he said. "If interest rates in Europe rise in 1999, then the euro could prove stronger than many expect, especially against the pound,"

The survey found only 9 per ceot of UK managers thought sterling would be the strongest currency over a year's view, down from 30 per cent last month.

Buying and selling patterns of UK fuod managers support the view that the economy is slowing down. Fund managers are strong buyers of gilts which ofteo do well in a slower economy - and have turned net sellers of institutional property for the first time in more than

tend to seil property as the economic cycle turns downwards". commented Merrill Lynch.

Eighty-four per cent of UK fund managers believe sterling will join the single currency, with most expecting entry in 2002 or 2003. However, a significant minority - 33 per cent - believe joining Emu could harm the UK's economic interests.

UK fuod managers are extremely pessimistic about prospects for the Asian economies, with UK support for Japaoese stocks hitting its lowest level since the Merrill Lynch survey began in 1990. However, Japanese fund managers are increasingly optimistic about their couotry's econom-

, BMW faces pressure to declare its intentions on Rolls-Royce

By Michael Harrison

THE GERMAN car maker BMW will come under pressure at its annual shareholders' meeting today to clarify whether it plans to top Volkswagen's £430m offer for Rolls-Royce Motor Cars after a day of confusion and conflicting re-

A BMW management board member, Horst Teltschik, yesterday denied reports the comany was considering increasing ts £340m bid. "We won't raise our offer. If we don't get Rolls-Royce, there are other alternatives. We could develop our own

9-Series." he said. Another spokesman for BMW later refused to rule out the possibility of a higher offer. "We cannot confirm we will raise our bid, but we are not ruling it out," said Walter Glogauer.

He was responding to a newspaper report that BMW by no means excludes an "improvement" of the offer, although the company's official line has always been that it has no intention of doing so.

Meanwhile the aero-engine company Rolls-Royce plc, which owns the rights to the Rolls-Royce trademark, said it did not expect to hold any talks with

Volkswagen about allowing the transfer of the name, until after shareholders in Rolls' parent company, Vickers, have voted on the rival offers at an extraordinary meeting on 4 June. Neither the aero-engine

company not VW would comment on reports that a licence fee of between £40m and £100m would be payable for allowing VW the right to use the name.

Rolls-Royce plc has made no secret of its preference for BMW, with which it already has an aero-engine joint venture. It says a sale to BMW would reunite the Rolls-Royce name. Outlook, this page By Andrew Verity

SUMITOMO Corporation, the Japanese trading giant, yesterday agreed to pay the Financial Services Authority, the UK markets regulator £5m in connection with the £1.6bn copper fraud by rogue trader Yasuo

The payment, compensating for alleged damage to British markets and resolving all ontstanding claims against Sumitomo, represents the biggest payment made to the FSA.

Sumitomo, which employed Hamanaka, paid the City's super-regulator £5m to cover its time, effort and expenses in investigating the fraud.

In the US, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission fined Sumitomo \$125m (£77m). Sumitomo expects to set aside \$25m to compensate other in-

terested parties.

Hamanaka confessed in June 1996 to conducting unauthorised trades in copper futures on a huge scale in an effort to corner the market. The illegal trading had gone on for 10 years, during which time he became known as "Mr Five Per the cause was deliberate Cent" - because of his alleged

share of the copper market. He was charged in Tokyo with forgery and fraud and pleaded guilty. Tokyo District Court has markets and claimed it bad insentenced him to eight years in curred hefty costs. Sumitomo prison but he has appealed.

The FSA had begun inves- but has co-operated with intigating Hamanaka's activities in early 1996. Traders had pointed to a large and unexplained "backwardation" in copper - the

future price. Regulators' suspicions were aroused because the cost of storing and funding the copper should push the future price higher than the cash price. Market rumours at the time said

manipulation of the market. The FSA alleged that Hamanaka's conduct had damaged the reputation of British did not accept the allegations

vestigators.

The American CFTC said it had found that markets were unlawfully manipulated in 1995 cash price was higher than the and 1996 because of Hamanaka's unauthorised trades. It also said he had carried out the illegal trades through a New York based copper merchant, whom

it refused to name. The FSA is still involved in an international investigation of the copper scandal, which cost Sumitomo \$2.6bn (£1.6bn), in partnership with Japanese and US authorities. British individuals and companies, including traders and market makers in copper, are still being probed.

also investigating whether there was a conspiracy to defraud which went wider than Hamanaka.

Martin London, a partner at Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison, lawyers for Sumitomo. said the company itself had been defrauded. "The company will, in the US, UK, Japan and cisewhere, vigorously pursue those who helped Mr Hamanaka defraud Sumitomo," he said.

The FSA said it had received "prompt valuable and extensive co-operation" from Sumitomo since Hamanaka's confession in June 1996.

The £5m settlement is a fraction of the £77m CFTC line because the FSA has no power to The Serious Fraud Office is fine companies directly.

rice slips

MARKET REPORT

THE INDEPENDENT TUESDAY 12 MAY 1998



DEREK PAIN

nf excitemeot surging through the lines at Cable & Wireless. ruse 33p to 677p as speculation resurfaced about the group's phone joint venture. ability to retain its indepen-

\$62bn alliance between SBC Communications and Ameritech. It ranks with Nations-Baok's takeover of Bank- tanks, the chemical group, merger on record, topped only by the \$73hn Citicorp and Travelers get together.

Italian partner, Telecom Italia, ing relationship by buying a 10 271p, strengthened oo hopes per cent stake. Slightly better results from its Cable & Wireless Communications offshoot also helped but it was the deepening suspicion the take-over bell will soon ring which Leisure, the disco chain was anover bell will soon ring which was the major influeoce.

YET annther huge American 6p to 658p. But Vodafone telephone merger sent a buzz jumped 20p to 690p and Orange 20.5p to 455p. Securicor put on 12.5p to 411.5p In active trading, the shares nn hopes BT will buy its stake in their Celinet mobile tele-

Footsie jumped 58.5 points to 6,028.3 with the supporting The transatlantic deal is a indices again hitting new peaks; New York provided much of the mnmentum.

Among hlue chips, Cour-

America as the second largest added 23p to 464p as a possible rival nffer to the Dutch Akzo Nnbel 450p bid was signalled; Rolls-Royce climbed Cable was also helped by 9.5p to a 304.5p peak as Morrumours, later denied, that its gan Stanley lifted its target to 340p and Enterprise Oil, 23p planned in cement their trad- to 556p. and Lasmo, 7p to nf Nnrth Sea discoveries.

EMI was in a downspin, off 38p (after 49p) nn the end nf bid talks with Seagram, the Caother where takeover hopes dis-BT missed the party, falling appeared, falling 35p to 505.5p. 550p nn reports it planned to

ended slightly firmer at 385p despite sell advice from Dresdner Kleinwort Benson. The investment hnuse frets the shares could fall to 310p and suggests the dividend may be cut and the group will deliver less than 3 per cent profits

Pearson, the banking to media group, gave np 7p to 938p after confirming lnngrunning speculation it is thinking of buying publisher Simon & Schuster from the Viacom giant for around \$4bu. Renewed bid talks lifted Zeneca 70p to 2,620p.

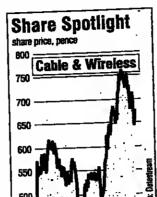
Asda regained 4.5p to 193.5p after it dismissed weekend reports it was again looking at Safeway, up 2.75p tn 370.75p ahead of figures to-

Financials came to life after weeks of indecisiveness. Halifax hardened 23.5p to 814.5p and Woolwich 7p to 351p. British Energy fell 14p to

statinn Three Mile Island.

Thomson, the packaged hnlidays group, arrived with a suitable splash. The whenissued shares touched 211p (against the top-of-the-range 170p flotatinn), closing at 193.5p. Trading was heavy with Seaq putting volume at almost 122 million shares.

Jefferson Smurfit, the



Rank, the leisure group, buy the infamous US power paper and packaging group. gained a further 16p tn 240p after its 46.5 per cent owned

US off-shoot agreed a merger with annther American packaging group. Bids continued oo the undercard. Hambro Insurance Services edged ahead

2.5p to 128.5p after controlling sharehulder, the soon to disappear Hamhros, accepted a 132p a share nffer from a nf the cost. group called Lindsey Mor-

Delancey Estates shaded 4.5p to 102p as hopes of a hid evaporated, replaced by the possibility of a big acquisition. funded by shares valued at 100p. Chesterfield Properties fell 15.5p to 642.5p on reports would-be hidder MEPC had lost interest. MEPC gained 21.5p to 593.5p.

Andrews Sykes improved 152.5p to 1,200p after buying Cox Plant Hire from Transport Development for £49.6m. Part of the consideration will be met through an £8.5m npen nffer.

Signet, the jeweller, was activity traded with twn delayed trades of 25 and 21

million. US selling was suspected. The price firmed 0.25p to 46.5p. Emerald Energy, confirming drilling had started at its Gigante 1A well in Colombia,

held at 7p. Monument Oil & Gas is earning a 14 per cent interest by meeting up to \$7.3m Housebuilder Fairbriar, five years ago trudging along at 4p, gained 11p to 50p after reporting profits up fram

£3.2m tn £9.5m. Columbus, a publisher. hardened 3.75p tn 21.75p. Figures are due sooo. Stockbroker Butterfield, which took a shine to the shares when they were 14p in September, expect year's profits, due soon, to emerge at £3.3m against

Burnden Leisure dropped 5p to 17p oo the relegation of its trading operation, Bolton

Wanderers.

TAKING STOCK

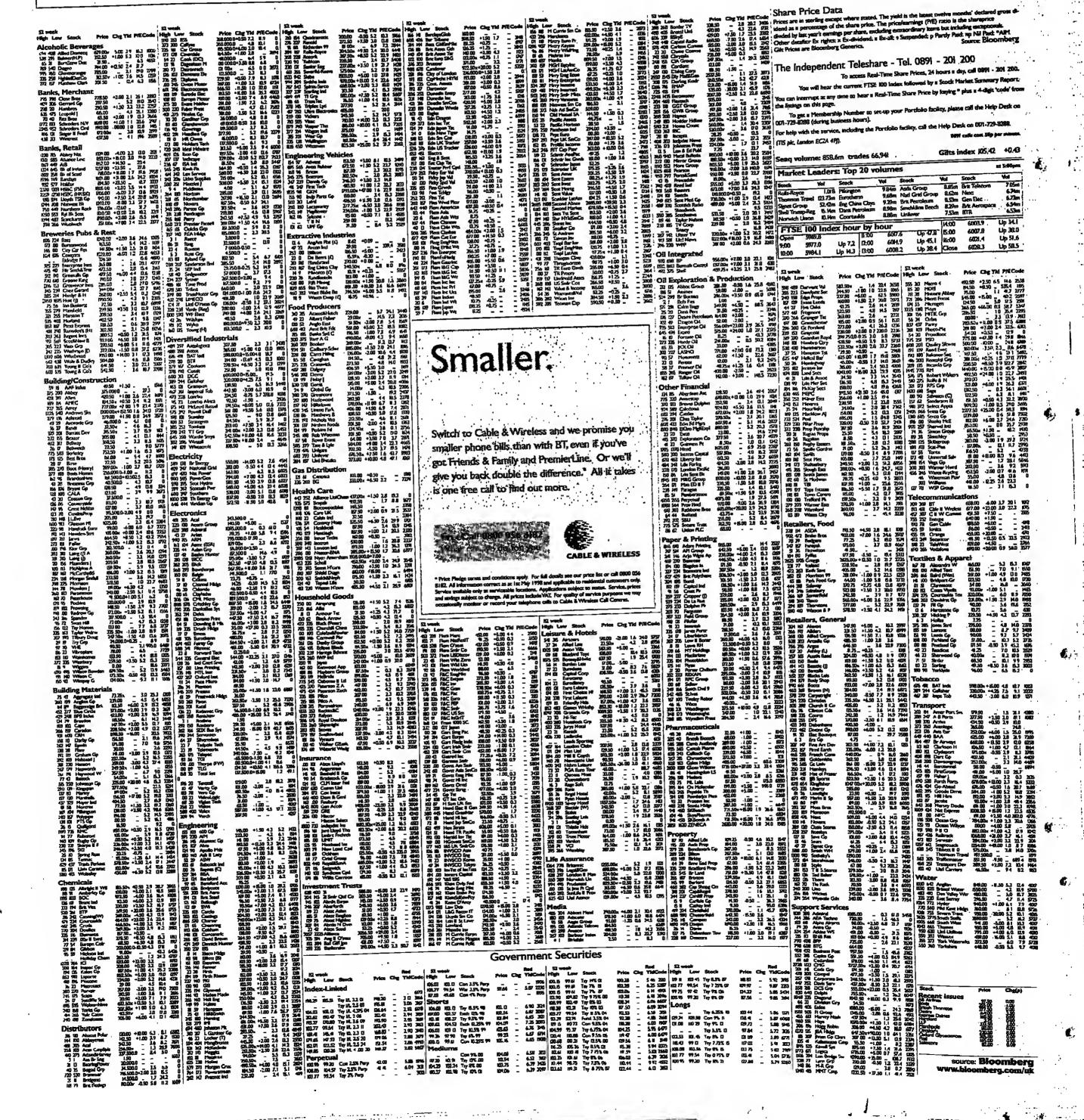
ACORN Computer, 4p firmer at 140.5p, is contemplating distributing its 25 per cent shareholding in the ARM computer chip maker to its

shareholders. ARM came to market last month. The shares fell 17.5p to 795p; they have closed as

high as 870p. The ARM shares could be worth as much as 120p per Acora share. Acora has lost money in its last three full years and was £1.1m in the red in its last interim

SUPERFRAME, an engineer, gained 3p to 23p. Expect corporate developments soon. There are suggestions it will buy an engineering group in what will amount to a reverse takeover.

On Friday the company reported profits ap from £137,000 to £206,000 and said it traded profitably in the first three months of this year although "the strength of our order book is still not at a level of total comfort".



, Where to expect a recovery in South-east Asia to start



HAMISH **MCRAE** ON THE COUNTRIES TAKING THE LEAD

IT AIN'T the going down that matters; it is how quickly you come up afterwards.

The collapse of the East Asian economies is getting worse, oot better, but you can begin to glimpse clear distinctions between those countries which are adjusting swiftly and those which are botching it. So there seems to be a new rule of thumb for analysis, fund managers, or any companies wishing to invest in the region. Don't speod too much time watching the fall because all the countries are in pretty much the same boat; instead, try to identify the scope for recovery, for that is where the real distinctions lie.

 The first propositioo is easy to demonstrate. Aside from Japan (which is in a rather differeot position) the two places with the highest GDP per head are Hoog Koog and Singapore. They are the most advanced in economic terms. Both assumed that their very different level of ecocomic sophistication would eoable them to escape the regional contagion: they were not emerging economies, they had already emerged. Indeed, many people believed that Singapore would benefit from the regional crisis, as investment would hurry there in a flight to

been hit by a loss of confidence following the Chinese takeover, particularly among the Japanese, which has damaged the murist trade.

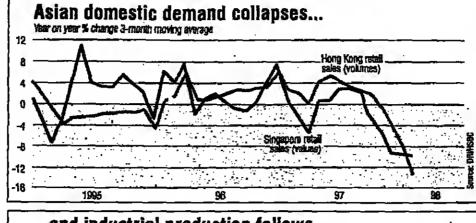
Singapore ought not to have seen a similar collapse, hut it has. The result is shown in the graph on the left; domestic demand in both places started to turn down in the middle of last year and now is heading downwards with increasing speed. The figures are not directly comparable, for one is volume, the other value, but the similarity in the pattern is striking. Hong Kong looks like experi-encing its first recession since the Second World War. It is perfectly plausible that Singapore will experience recession, too.

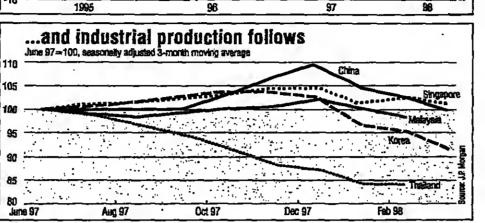
If you look at industrial production (right hand graph) a slightly different picture emerges. Thailand, where the crisis first became evident, has been heading south ever since the middle of last year. But elsewhere there was sufficient momentum to carry production upwards for several months. Output in China seems to have peaked around the turn of the year, and only recently has it begun to fall in any dramatic

All this would figure: retail sales will respood very quickly to any change in people's perceived circumstances. If we get scared, we stop buying. But industrial production inevitably lags. Mure surprising, though, is the fact that Thailand and Korea, the two countries at the bottom of the right hand graph, are now seen as the poteotial success stories of the region, the ones where recov-

ery will take hold most strongly. This is certainly the view of the International Monetary Fuod, which has been impressed by the vigour with which these two countries have beeo applying reform programmes. You also pick up this view in the investment banking community. And if you want one modest endorsement of it amoog hard-oosed husiness people, well, oote that Tesco is expected this week to announce







Thailand's second largest happening in mainland China. recovery of sorts to begin in hypermarket operator. Expect, too, foreign participation in the Korean industrial rescues which are now being put in place.

By contrast, Malaysia is not really putting together an integrated reform programme that is attractive to foreign investors, and Indonesia - well, it is very difficult to be anything other than gloomy until political change takes place.

So there is a clearly defined clutch of leaders, with Thailand and Korea in the vanguard, and a tail of laggards, with Indonesia obviously at the back. Hong Kong is a cooundrum, for more than ever its future will depend on the attitude of China. Were it still a colony it would react as it has always dooe in the past: adjust to market pressures with speed and ferocity. But oow the market signals may oot be allowed to shine through.

At least we do have a clear picture of what is happening in Hong Kong. By cootrast, we Wrong. Hong Koog has that it will take a stake in know very little about what is

The last figures are now showing a sharp decline in ootput, but other numbers being published, most notably the foreign reserves, show oo sign of crisis. The most likely of these is a rise Eventually, it will be possible to put together a picture and, in particular, make a better judgement on the likelihood of a Chinese devaluation which, if it happens, would change the balance of competitiveness in

the entire region. But at the mo-

both Korean and Thailand. It-

will oot be marvellous; and any

regional recovery risks being

unseated by external events.

in US interest rates, which

would probably have occurred

by now had the Fed not been

concerned at the knock-oo

effect on the East Asian region.

But it will signal the end of the

slash-aud-burn approach to

rating the regioo: assuming

hecause one country heads

south that all the others will too.

the right approach to analysis

in the downswing, for they did

all head down pretty much to-

gether. But it will be the wrong

one during the upswing, for they

will head up at different speeds.

When there is bad news the best

thing to do is panic: sell every-

thing and don't try to be clever.

When there is good oews (as

there will, in pockets, be from

oow oo), be discerning: it is a

time for applying judgement

There is a higger moral here.

As it has turned out that was

ment we are pretty hlind. Sifting through the available informatino - partly from published data, partly from first-hand anecdotal reports from people who have just returned - my instinct is to expect a hig discontinuity in Chinese economic policy within the next six to nine months. Something is going to give. That something may just be the exchange rate, or it may be something more. But that is an intuitive judgement based oo partial information, rather a thought-through verdict.

Meanwhile, expect a modest again.

PEOPLE & BUSINESS

JOHN WILLCOCK



HANS-JOERG Radioff is back - as chairman of Barclays Capital's executive committee. The legendary former boss of Crédit Suisse First Boston has been in semi-retirement for the last couple of years but last December his former colleague, Bob Diamond, persuaded him to return from his Geneva base to take

up the investment banking cudgels in London.

Mr Diamond, who has been at Barclays Capital for the last two years, the latter year as chief executive, worked at CSFB in 1992, when Mr Rudloff was chairman and chief executive. Mr Rudloff, 57, did for the Eurobond markets in the 1970s and 1980s what Henry Ford did for popular car ownership at the beginning of the century, and his re-emergence at Barclays' investment banking arm is sure tn give it much -needed clout since it sold its equities and corporate finance businesses last

Recent press reports wrongly suggested that Mr Rudinff was destined for Warburg Dillon Read. For the last four years he has been running his own investment bank, MC Securities, which specialised in Eastern Europe and Russia, and which he recently sold to Robert

Now Mr Diamond is looking forward to his old boss bringing his well-known, hard-oosed deal making skills to Barclays Capital's target markets: "the integration of the bond and loan markets, the introduction of the euro and the significant potential of emerging markets."

FORGET Eurovisioo and warbling Israeli transsexuals, the only contest accountants KPMG were interested in last weekend were the municipal elections. Head of press relations, Tim Roberts, was reasonably confident of winning the Tory council of Friern Barnet in London for Labour.

Sadly, our hero failed to "do a Tony," and the north London borough remains True Blue. At least it was a hard fight, I'm told, and not "oul points".

THERE was some ripe banter at Cable & day as the company unveiled OK-isb results. clubs.

One journalist asked: "What's the highest charge you can pay for your cable TV and telephony?" Greg Clarke, CWC's UK managing director, answered without missing a beat: "I think you can go up to about £45 a month. That means you have to take all the porn

channels." At which point Nicholas Mearing-Smith, the company's finance director, couldn't resist adding: "Which is why Greg knows the exact charge."

To which Mr Clarke in turn rejoined: "Yes, but Nick lives in a CWC franchise area, whereas I don't."

Perhaps CWC should launch a oew sports slot: "All-in wrestling direct from the board-

DERMOT Kelly, the director of Skoda UK, is used to defending a hrand that is still seen in this country as a standing jnke. This lunchtime he faces his toughest test - a grilling from the members of the Saffron Walden Rotary Club. They have booked Mr Kelly to speak as part of a themed motoring day which kicks off with a visit to Woods of Great Eastern, the country's best-known restorer of Rolls-Royce cars.

The two events were booked mooths ago when the only thing that Skoda and Rolls had in common was four wheels. However, the eagle-eyed rotarians will have spotted that if Volkswageo wins the German battle for Rolls, then the luxury car maker will become part of the same stable as Skoda, which has beeo owned by VW since 1991. Mr Kelly promises he will not be fazed, whatever questions he is called upon to field.

FRESH from being appointed exclusive caterer to BA's no-frills airline Go, Costa Coffee is branching out into the music husiness. From this week, most of the Whitbread-owned group's 85-odd outlets will be selling, alongside the lattés and deep-roasted espressos, a compilation CD called A Putumayo Blend: Music from the Coffee Lands.

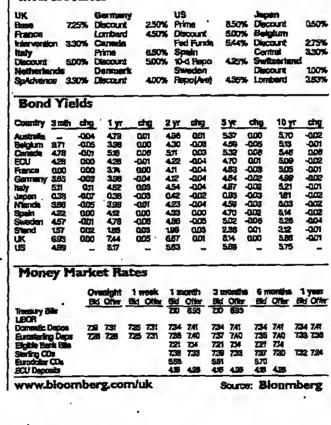
The idea is the brainchild of Dan Storper, chairman and chief executive of Putumayo. Dan gnt into the in-vogue "world music" through his previous business of selling traditional clothing and artifacts in New York.

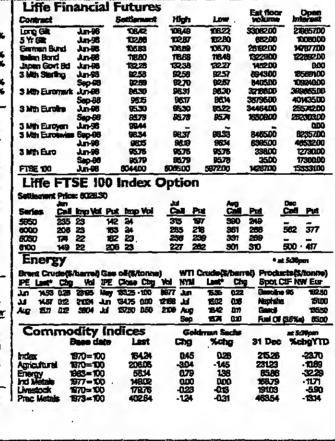
Travelling to developing countries for his merchandise, Dan found himself getting more and more interested in the local musical styles. Returning home after his trips he would make tapes of the records he had bought and play them in the shop. When customers started asking about the music, he - with classic eotrepreceurial flair - spotted another business opportunity.

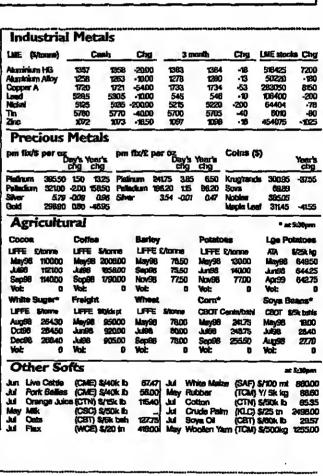
The heady brew of coffee, ethnic music and books has worked well in the United States, where Putumayo CDs were apparently the first to he sold in the cafés of the huge booksellers Borders and Barnes & Nohle, which are just entering the UK market.

And Storper, a cappuccino fiend himself, sees Costa as drawing on coffee houses' original role in the development of institutions Wireless Communications (CWC) yester- like Lloyd's of Loodon and gentlemen's

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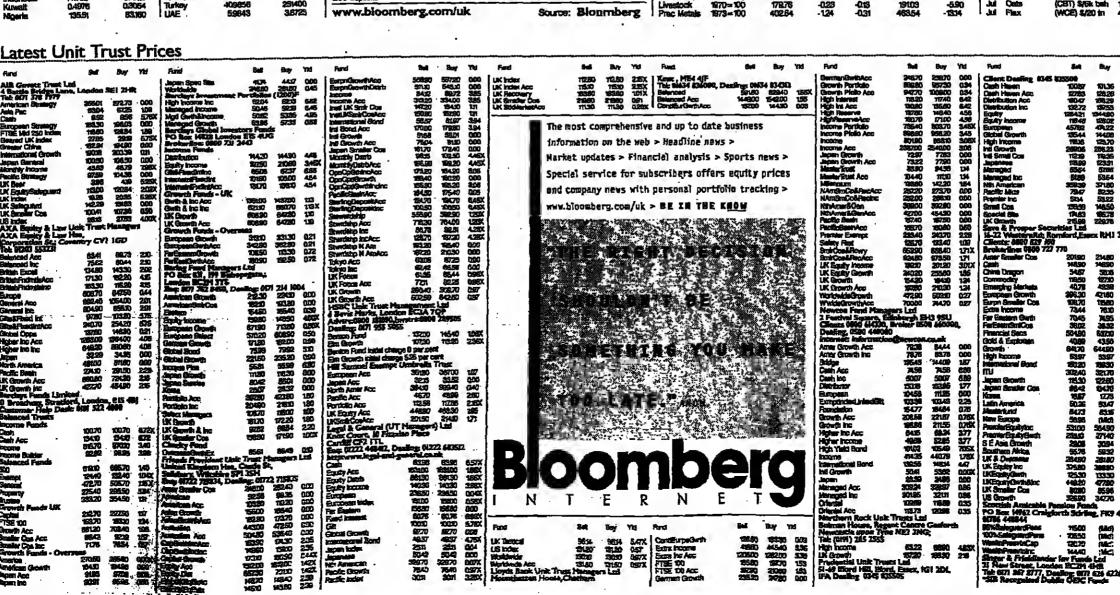






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SATX OST OSTX

Stewart boosted by season's first points

Motor racing

By Derek Allsop

IT was business as usual in the McLaren-Mercedes camp and the scene reflected that: no excessive celebrations, no gloating. no flauoting. Another one-two had been clinically accomplished, time to pack up and head for the next race.

Evidence of spilling emotions was to be found along the pit-lane, at Stewart-Ford: jubilation, relief, and a discernible sense of vindication. Theirs was the unscripted triumph of the Spanish Grand Prix.

Jackie Stewart arrived here facing an inquisition and there were those who relished his public discomfiture. Was his team up to it? Was he up to it? Ford were among those doubtless listening for the answers.

But then Rubens Barrichello, the Brazilian driver who depoints, from that remarkable second place at Monaco, a year a drive, fending off the world champion, Jacques Villeneuve and his Williams, to bring home

Rugby Union

THE FATE of Ireland's forth-

coming tour of South Africa re-

despite the resignation of Louis

Luyt, the president of the South

African Rugby Football Union.

changed," said Mvuso Mhebe,

the chief executive of the Na-

tional Sports Council, referring

to the controlling sports body's

view that all international rug-

by tours of the country are sus-

pended pending further notice.

"We had planned to contact

"Our position remains un-

mained uoclear vesterday the sports minister, Steve

the white car in fifth place. the facilities. Next month we will champion as a driver, gratefully embraced the two points as if they were his first.

The last few weeks have been murder," he said. "We needed a good result here and we've got it."

The late completion of this year's car, the laborious move to a oew factory, and Jan Magnussen's early poor form combined to iotensify the pressure

"It's stressful enough moving home," he said. "Imagine what it's like moving an entire race team. It's been very difficult for us. But for all that I've. never had second thoughts about going ahead with this. I've had ups aod downs throughout my career.

"I know penple were look-iog for me to fail when I came back into Formula One, but you always get that. It doesn't conlivered the team's only other cern me. They said the same when we set up Paul Stewart Racing 10 years ago and we've earlier, produced a little gem of run 12 championships and 122 races with that team.

"We also have a good team here. We have the resources and

Ireland's tour of S Africa still

discussions with the [rugby

unioo] provinces," Mbebe

Tshwete said all tours to South

Africa would go ahead, But the

NSC has insisted this will hap-

pen only once the entire Sarfu

executive committee steps down.

all white - could resign en

masse today following allega-

tions of nepotism and racism.

Four other black members re-

the Irish Rugby Union today, but Luyt. A spokesman for Sarfu for the tour to New Zealand,

Following Luyt's resignation,

now will only do so after we have said that the remaining seven

The seven remaining mem- by union's punishing season will

bers of the committee - who are show this morning when Eng-

signed last week in protest at seotees from the 38-man squad

Stewart, three times world have our test team in place and that is something we've obviously needed.

Success at this levet isn't achieved overnight. We can't expect to take on the Ferraris, Benettons and Saubers of this world straight away. We're still finding our feet."

Barrichelo's application this season has helped sustain the team's optimism through the trials and Magmissen, who almost lost his joh a fortnight ago, bought himself a little more time in the car by finishing Sunday's race, albeit a distant

"The really pleasing thing is that Rubens managed to keep Villeneuve behind him for the whole race," Stewart said. During the last third of the race, I was incredibly tense.

"It was great that Jan finished. We just have to get his head in shape. We don't want to change him if he can get his act together, and maybe this is the start for him."

Stewart returns to Monte Carlo, on Sunday week, in good heart while others hope the unique nature of the principal-

members "may all resign and be

the NSC that everything is be-

ficial yesterday by faxing a let-

ter to the union's headquarters.

This was greeted by Mbebe as

"a step in the right directioo".

land's coach, Clive Woodward,

names his southern bemisphere

The list of high-profile ab-

tour squad at Twickenham.

The toll of professional rug-

Luyt made his resignation of-

ing dooe democratically."

ity's street circuit will provide him with the opportunity of closing the gap on McLaren. Mikka Hakkinen's success,

here, ahead of his team-mate David Coulthard, was as resounding as it was anticipated by most.

Ferrari will have to find sigoificant improvements if Michael Schumacher is to summon any sustained threat to McLaren and force Ron Dennis to concentrate his team's efforts oo ooe of their drivers. Otherwise, Formula One is looking to Coulthard to challenge Hakkinen and make a spectacle of the champion.

Dennis said: "I hope we have the problem of how we will handle which of the two will be going for the world championship, but at this stage that would be too presumptuous.

"They are comfortable with each other. We will oot step in with any instructions because it is not necessary as it was at the start of the season.

McLaren have discovered the once elusive reliability to match their performance, and just oow that is proving an irresistible formula.

on hold

re-elected.... It would convince captain, Lawrence Dallaglio,

Australia and South Africa, is

likely to include the England

Glanville, plus Mike Catt, David

Rees, Tooy Underwood, Richard Hill and Tim Rodber.

Woodward has promised that

only players who are "100 per

ceot mentally and physically

should have a chance to prove

themselves. England face Aus-

tralia on 6 June, New Zealand

on 20 and 27 June and should

play South Africa oo 4 July.

Several uncapped players,

fit" should travel.



Tiger Woods on the way to the win that made him world No I again

his Lions counterpart, Martin Johnson, the Bath centres, Jeremy Guscott and Phil de

Woods claims first victory in 10 months

lay Doo Blake to win the Bell-South Classic by one stroke oo Sunday, ending a 10-month winless drought on the PGA tour.

Woods, who had oot won since taking the Western Open

record 63 on Saturday, He went oo to shoot an even-par 72 and finished off at 271, 17-under-

This victory moves Woods back to top spot in the world

TIGER WOODS shook off a last July, led Blake by three golf rankings issued yesterday, shaky opening nine holes and shots entering the final round overhauling South Africa's held off a steady challenge from after setting a new course- Ernie Els who slips down to secood place.

The win ended a string of 15 PGA tournaments without a win for Woods, who woo six of the first 21 events be eotered as a

stuck in sad saga

Sailing

By Stuart Alexander

THE sad saga of Britain's Silk Out was tinged with a hint of humiliation yesterday as Lawrie Smith dropped further and forther back on the eighth leg of the Whitbread race from Annapolis to La Rochelle.

Smith was not alone in his misery as another famous name, John Kostecki, brought up the rear in Chessie Racing. over 200 miles behind the leader, Paul Standbridge, who has just 1,200 miles to go in Toshiba.

But Smith, in eighth place, was going really slowly, having found a spot in the Atlantic with hardly any wind to push him along. He has been reduced to praying that a forecast new westerly wind will pick him up and help him close the gap over the oext 36 hours.

Standbridge had slightly mcreased his lead over Grant Dalton in Merit Cup, and these two had a 25-mile cushion on the overall leader and thirdplaced Paul Cayard in EF Lan-

Third would suit the Californian very nicely as, even though the only man who could attack him. Gunnar Krantz. moved a flu-hit Swedish match up to fifth place, this would leave Cayard with a 127-point advantage over Krantz.

That is more than Krantz could score on the final leg to Southampton so Cavard, whose father is French, should be able to celebrate an overall win in the Volvo Trophy this week- .

end, There is, however, still some tricky oavigation to complete. "Up ahead is a minefield of light air," said Standbridge. "It is critical to ride this froot as long as possible and try to get on to the back of a stationary low at 15 degrees west which will get us into the Bay of Biscay."

Positions, Digest, page 27



Today we publish the updated results of The Independent Fantasy Football League. The league table includes all scores up to MAY 3rd. The player list includes scores from all games played until May 10th. Neither set of scores includes results from the FA Cup. The overall winner at the end of the season will win a pair of tickets to the World Cup finals in France this

Every time one of your players score you get four points. There are four points for a keeper or a defender every time their team keeps a clean sheet. If a player scores the winning goal. i.e.; if there is a one goal difference in the scoreline, the player scoring the final goal for the winning team is awarded 1 bonus point awarded in addition to standard goal related points. Euch successful Assist, a pass judged by our experts to lead directly to a goal, will give a player 3 points. The opinion of our experts on the matter is final. Each player selected and starting a game will be awarded one point.

If a player is given a Yellow Card they lose I point if a player is given a Red Card they lose 3 points. Own goals, either secred or conceded, do not count.

The Premiership Manager that you choose will be awarded 3 points if their real-life team wins, 1 point is awarded if they draw and no points are given if they lose.

Updated player scores and league tables will be published every Tuesday in The Independent and repeated the following Sunday in the Independent on Sunday.

HOW TO SCORE winning goal

Independent Fantasy Football

OVERALL SCORE CALCULATED ON MATCHES PLAYED FROM 8 AUGUST	10 May

LEAG	UE TABLE		COME PLAYER	TEAM 199	B OV VALUE	CODE PLAYER	TEAM	WHE DY VALUE (Sm)	CODE PLAYER	TEAM	WR OV VALUE	COME PLANCE	TEAM	WE OF VALUE	COOR FLAVER	TEAM	WE OF VALO
Mr D Edmondson Mr J Hayes Mr Archer Mr C King Mr P Tuffer Mr D Evans Mr D Evans Mr D Evans Mr J Cox Mr I Boyle Mr A Wingrove Mr T Lyons Mr M Pawley Mr M Pawley Mr M D Sari Mr D Sari Mr D Astoo	TEAM Edmo United Early Birds No Wright Seeking Victory Pin Ups 4 Boothen End Otd Boys Southville FC Wembley Bounders Tooy's Boys Diana's Demons Robert's Raiders Simply The Best The Untouchables Billy's Boy's 2nd 11 Nikies 9th 11	POINTS 1133 1126 1113 1113 1113 1113 1105 1102 1102 1102 1102 1098 1096 1092	GOALKEEP 300 Seaman 303 Lustic 304 Manninger 305 Bosnich 306 Cukes 307 Watson 308 Leste 309 Flowers 330 Flow 331 Branagae 334 Oprizovic 337 Hedman 338 Nash 339 Day 340 Poun 341 Hoult 344 Southall 345 Gerrard 346 Manya 347 Beeney 348 Keller 349 Poule 350 James	ARS I ARS O ARS I ARS O ARS I AV 50 ARS I BAR I BAR I BAR I CHE 50 COV O COV O COV O COV O CRY O	82 40 0 10 31 40 65 40 8 15 75 52 23 15 74 10 0 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 1	454 Andenson 455 Cor 456 Ellior 457 Pairclough 458 Paggart 459 Bergson 460 Duberry 461 Perescu 464 Lambourde 465 Shew 469 Bernors 468 Shaw 469 Bernors 470 Hawarth 473 Edworthy 471 Gordon 475 Moscat 476 Tattle 477 Linghan 478 Roberts 480 Stimae 481 Lauren 485 Phelan 485 Phelan 487 Short		9 25 25 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20	560 Lundekvam 563 Scales 564 Campbell 565 Calderwood 566 Anstir 567 Ediabungh 568 Carr 569 Mabbunt 570 Diels 573 Rieper 574 Hall 575 Potts 576 Ferdinad 577 Imper 578 Tumer 579 Petry 580 Commingham 583 Thatcher 584 MeAlister 585 Kamble MIDFIELDE 00 Platt 603 Parkour 604 Pereira 605 Vietra 605 Overtuus		1 47 1.2 0 21 3.4 0 68 4.9 0 0 2.9 0 19 1.6 1 74 1.2 0 19 1.5 0 12 2.7 0 0 3.5 0 12 2.7 0 0 2.0 1 40 2.5 1 40 2.2 1 40 2.2 1 40 2.3 1 40 2.5 1 40 2.5 1 40 2.5 1 51 2.6 1 7 1.5 4 88 1.5	679 Sharpe 680 Ribeiro 683 Hanland 684 Parker 685 Daylov 686 Ezeut 687 Lemon 688 Gupty 689 Barnes 690 Redkuspp 693 McManantan 694 Thomas 695 Lembarden 696 Gigps 697 Becking 698 Rett 700 Puborski 703 Lee 704 Barty 705 Gillespie 706 Beardsley 707 Kembarn	東京主義のおけられるのの名が出来るのである。 1997年 1997	0 0 3.5 0 47 15 6 44 25 0 33 25 0 0 16 1 59 21 1 42 3.2 0 68 1.7 1 48 3.0 0 38 5.2 1 109 5.9	846 Huckerby 847 Soltwedt 848 Lightbourne 849 Dyer 850 Freedman 853 Ndah 854 Shipperfey 855 Vard 856 Shurtdge 857 Wanchope 858 Ferguson 859 Barmby 860 Deane 863 Lifley 864 Hasslebank 865 Claridge 866 Fleskey 867 Fowler 868 Benger 869 Owen 870 Scholes 871 Solstjaar 875 Sheringham 876 Nevland 877 Shearer 878 Asprilla	COV CRYY CRARENT COV CRYY CRARENT COV CRYY CRYY CRARENT COV CRYY CRYY CRYY CRYY CRYY CRYY CRYY CRY	96 33 11 0 0 33 12 0 0 37 21 0 0 61 51 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
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Miss L Wild Mr I Brown Mr D Astun Mr S Scott Mr N Peat Mr J McCrossam Mr D Deper Mr W Barr Mr P Cridland Mr A Cumminghat Mr A Pringle	Amerretto FC The Honfers Billy's Boys 3rd 11 Reading Tim's Tigers Washed Up Army Quick Start Brookes Rangers PDC2	1073 1070 1069 1069 1068 1065 1064 1062 1060 1059	400 Dixon 403 Upson 404 Petat 405 Upson 405 Grimendf 406 Winterburn 407 Bould 408 Adams 409 Rown 430 Samulon 433 Southgate 434 Ehiogo 435 Wight 437 Kameca 438 Grayson 439 Moses 440 Applety 441 Thompson 444 Borg 446 Borg 447 Coleman 447 Coleman 448 Hendry	ARS 1 ARS 2 ARS 2 ARS 2 ARV 5 AV 5 AV 5 BAR 1 BARR 0 BARR 0 BIA 4 BIA 4 BIA 4 BIA 4	250427571545282822822257125712585842575 25042757154582822822257125712585842575	508 Renatme 509 Bjornebye 500 Matteo 513 McAteer 514 O Neville 515 P Neville 515 P Neville 515 P Neville 516 Iven 517 Palliker 518 May 519 Johnsen 510 Silva 541 Homey 545 Peacock 546 Barton 547 Beresford 548 Blonden 550 Albren 550 Stelmonte 551 Stelmonte 553 Walteer 553 Walteer	NANANANANANANANANANANANANANANANANANANA	5 668 3.7 8 108 42.5 9 84 42.5 4 99 30 35.5 0 0 35 35.5 0 54 3.3 0 54	650 Oi Mattee 653 Wise 654 Newton 655 P. Hughes, 656 Babeyaro 657 Teller 658 Richardson 659 McAlister 660 Salake 660 Johannen 664 Sangaon 664 Sangaon 665 Orwell 667 Orwell 667 Parkinon 673 Genat 674 Genat 675 Speed		0 50 50 1 15 24 10 7 30 1 42 18 2 29 34 2 17 30 2 19 24 2 0 7 12 2 0 0 7 11 1 16 2 0 0 7 12 1 16 2 0 0 1 18	STRIKERS 300 Berghamp 303 Wright 804 Boamonte Perein 805 Vorte 806 Josephin 807 Collymore 808 Williamon 809 Hendrie 830 Histor 830 Sutton 834 Gallacher 835 Sutton 836 McGinlay 837 Riske 838 Zola 839 Valli 840 Ma Hughes 841 Rer Andre Fio 844 Dubin 845 Weight		0 16 20 0 116 75 0 62 75 0 12 20 0 78 2.4 7 57 8.1 0 61 12 0 11 15 0 110 45 0 11 30 0 25 40 0 59 90 0 61 3.5 0 61 3.0	MANACERS 900 Wenger 903 Linie 904 Wilson 905 Hodeson 906 Bod 907 Gulär 908 Strachan 909 Coppell 933 Kendall 933 Kendall 934 Graham 935 O'Neill 936 Evans 937 Ferguson 938 Dalglish 939 Pleat 940 Janes	ARS AV BAR BULA BOLL COV COV CORY CORY CORY CORY CORY CORY CORY CORY	0 78 7 0 0 30 5 2 3 3 5 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

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Bahr's class to make Midnight toil

By Greg Wood

IF it is the function of a good Classic trial to offer a few firm hints as to how a more important race may turn out, but without giving the game away entirely, then it seems fair to describe today's Musidora Stakes at York as small but perfectly so since one of the two obvious formed.

Cape Verdi, the favourite for straight to Epsom without another race (if, indeed, she contests the Oaks at all), but the next two horses in the market, Midnight Line and Bahr, form half the field for the feature event on the first afternoon of a new Flat season at York.

York — 2.05

СНЬВ

15-1 20-1 20-1 20-1 16-1

16-1 14-1 20-1 14-1 16-1

Jack The Last 35-1 35-1 35-1 35-1

African Sun 66-1 100-1 100-1 100-1 66-1

Each way a quarter the order, places 1, 2, 3

First show

many punters would cheerfully trot around 10 furlongs of the Knavesmire themselves for little more than a tenner or so.

triguing eveot, and all the more contenders, Midnight Lioe, seems sure to start at very short the Oaks on 5 June, will go odds indeed following her eightlength win in the Pretty Polly Stakes at Newmarket on 1,000 Guineas day.

None the less, this is an in-

It is not just the distance that Midnight Line put betweeo herself and second place that day, although that was impressive enough, but also the fact ing, in the Classic betting.

A total of four horses may that she is trained by Henry Ceseem like a desperate turn out cil, who has won five of the last for a race worth £45,000, since 11 runnings of the Musidora, which will persuade punters to reach for some chunky hundles of banknotes this afternoon. Four of those winners,

> RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Bahr (York 3.10) NB: Raffaello (York 2.35)

meanwhile, went on to take the Oaks itself, so victory for the favourite today will see her shrink to within a point or so of Cape Verdi, who is top-priced at 15-8 with the Tote this morn-

York --- 3.40

question a horse's form, and there are at least two worries which remove Midnight Line proposition today. The first is the actual merit of her win at Newmarket, giveo that the opposition was far from outstanding and the time of the race merely reasonable.

The second comes in the handsome form of Bahr herself, who arrives at York unbeaten in her two races as a juvenile. Both successes were recorded in the style of a very promising filly, and while she is making her seasonal debut today, she cannot be far from peak fitness given

2.05: LARGESSE ran un excellent

race to finish five lengths second to

Raise A Prince in a competitive Im-

4f handicap at the Newmarket

Craven meeting. He looks fairly

handicapped on that form and can

go one better Ioday, Crystal Falls

2.35: NAUTICAL STAR justified his

trainer's high opinion of him with

a short-head victory over Noble De-

mand in a decent 1m 2f handican

at the Newmarket Craven meeting

This coll is a progressive sort who

should be followed. Bawsian, a

most consistent type, may pose the

looks the main danger.

most problems.

ever, the greater the need to and a half weeks away, It would price. Crystal Falls seems sure be no surprise to see Bahr to start favourite for the open-(3.10) overturn the odds laid on er after an unlucky second last Midnight Line, and if the rush from consideration as a betting for Cecil's filly pushes the price tori on board will certainly go of her main opponent out to close, but the Italian's great rinear, say, 2-1, she would certainly be worth a bet.

> The televised supporting card today is composed of three handicaps, but since these are York bandicaps, which always seem that little bit more tractable than those at many other courses, all are worth a second look. The most valuable is the rated stakes for threeyear-olds, which includes several whose ability is far from fully exposed, with Sweet Reward

HYPERION'S

The shorter the price, how- that the Oaks itself is just three (2.35) likely to go well at a fair time out, and with Frankie Detval Kieren Fallon could frustrate him again on Largesse (next best 2.05).

The sprint too has an obvious favourite in Sheltering Sky, who won in style at Newmarket's Guineas meeting. Again, though, a better alternative may be to scan the remainder, and GEIMHRIUIL (nap 3.40), who was going well in the same race until lack of coodition got the better of him, may turn the tables today.

in recent weeks. Bahr is clearly con-

3.10: MIDNIGHT LINE, who established herself as a decent twoyear-old last year, looks better than ever at three judging by the man-ner in which she humbled some fair rivals by eight lengths and more in the Listed Pretty Polly Stakes over 1m 2f at Newmarket on 1,000 Guineas day recently. Bahr, who created a favourable impression on both her starts as a juvenile, has been heavily backed for the Oaks

sidered a more than able deputy for stablemate Cape Verdi should the 1.000 Guineas winner he switched to the Derby. She is the obvious

3.40: SHELTERING SKY tooked like he had found his forte when beating Hill Magic by a neck in a highly competitive 29-runner handicap over six furlongs at Newmarket on 2,000 Guineas day. He remains leniently treated and can go in again. The Puzzler, who is quite favourably handicapped on his best form, might prove the most po-

BETTINIC; 3-1 Sheltering Sky, 8-1 Colmbrisit, 7-1 Double Action, Superior Premium, 8-1 Double Splendour, 10-1 The Puzzler, 12-1 Venture Capitalist, Return Of Amin, 14-1 Ziggy's Denote, World Premier, 25-1 Oranka City, Law Commission, 50-1 Domulia 1997, Bolin Joenne 4 8 8 C Partin (5) 10-1 [T Expertyr) drawn (2) 16 ran

FORM GUIDE

197, Bolin Joanne 4 8 8 C Partin (5) 10-1 [Testerby) drawn (2) 16 ran FORM GUIDE.

SHELTERING SKY has gone up 8lb for winning by just a neck at Newmarket but he'll be difficult to hold off if he produces the same tate surge that allowed him to each his Magniciate on, with previous winners Mansad and Always Alice third and fourth. Hill Maglic paid Sheltering Sky a compliment when he beat 19 others at Lingfield on Saturday and there could still be better to come from the Dunlop colt. That Newmarket race was only his seventh and his first at this distance. Geleithrikall (ascourte) was almost eight lengths behind Sheltering Sky at these weights is Return Of Amini, as he beat the Dunlop horse a length in Desert Beauty's race at Newmarket lest autumn and is 6th better off, Mick Kinane, who node Return Of Amin that day, is back on board, the snap being that Return Of Amin must bounce beak from a below-per run in the Ripon handicap won by Malia. Double Action was betten a neck by Return Of Amin here lest June, but he conceded 15th that day and beet Return Of Amin (now 8b better off) sight lengths over course and distance in September Double Action also did better than Superior Premisers (third) and Ziggy's Danoer (seventh) in the Ayr Gold Cup won by Wildwood Flower, although he might be pushed to confirm that form. Superior Premium has the beating of Double Action on their mining behind Caranta in a conditions race at Heydock but days ago, while Ziggy's Danoer could be reactly for the step back up to six furiongs after finishing second to Swino at Thirsk and to Westcaurt Megic at Chester.

4.10 E.B.F. NOVICE STAKES (CLASS D) £10,000 added 2YO fillies 5f Penalty Value £7,245 1 PIPALONG (26) (D) (T H Bennett) T Essenby 9 0.

1 PIPALONG (26) (D) (T H Bennett) T Essenby 9 0.

1 LADYCANG (11) (D) (Cornerbad Brothers Limited) J Berry 8 10.

BINT ALLAYL (Shelich Ahmed Al Mektoum) M Chemnon 9 8.

FIRST LEGACY (Mel Brittein) M Brittein 8 8.

LADY GEORGIA (A J Hichards) C Brittein 8 8.

2 LIMMAR PROSPECTOR (a) (Benned Halfrawel) C Dwyer 8 8.

20 SAPHIRE (18) (EF) (Mes Merian Rogers) C Booth 8 8.

TOP ORDER (USA) (H R H Prince Field Selviery) P Cole 8 8.C Lowther (3)

BETTING: 2-1 Pipelong, 9-4 Birt Allayt, 9-2 Top Ortic, 13-2 Lady Georgia, 8-1 Ladycalds, 10-1 Lister Prospector, 20-1 Septim, 33-1 Final Legecy 1997: Busines The Books 2 8-8 Pat Eddery 3-1 (R Harven) drawn (5) 5 ran FORM GUIDE

BINT ALLAYAL, a January Green Desert fifty, is the subject of very encouraging home reports and is expected to make a witning debut. Ladyceke will find the much toughes than when winning at Museelburgh, while Luner Prospect, runner-up to Ladyceke's stablemate Kasteway at Donasator lest week, will also do well to win in this company. Sephina is out of her depth judged on the evidence of two runs to date, but Pipelong could not have been more impressive in beating College Music 12 lengths (assed) at Fipon and is well worth a try in this better race.

4.40 WORLD OF RACING EXHIBITION STAKES (CLASS B) £15,000 added 3YO 1m 6f Penalty Value £9,159 072-3 ANGSTROM (14) (Shelidi Mohammed) M Shoute 9 1
34-21 ELHAYO (25) (Hemden Al Mektoum) J Duniop 8 1
8- SINON (192) (Ridnings Rechng) M Johnston 8 1
2 LAUPERNTRIE (12) (25) (48) (25) (48) Viginia (Kett Physical H Cecil 9 12
0-3 THEASHRING (10) (Seeed Menum) C British 8 12

Crystal Fella 10-3 3-1 5-2 10-3 3-1 51 11-2 6-1 11-2 11-2 7-1 7-1 7-1 10-2 7-1 Colonial Choix 7-1 1-1 7-1 6-1 8-1 MgM CBy 52 81 182 91 152 61 91 161 91 91 121 11-1 12-1 12-1 12-1 147 141 161 141 141

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Projec	6-1	6-1	5-1	13-2		Double Action	11-2	13-2	5-1	B-1	1
mart Squar	11-2	7-1	B-1	6-1		Superior Premi	3.61	13-2	5-1	6-1	12
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asi Christmas	61	61	91	61		The Puzzler	19-1	10-1	12-1	9-1	t
			~			Return Of Amin	12-1	12-1	11-1	14-1	1
ary The Plag	16-1	<u>61</u>	10-1	<u>6-1</u>		Ziggy's Dencer	14-1	12-1	2-1	12-1	14
artisello .	10-1	6-1	10-1	11-1		Vectors Capital	ist 11-1	12-1	12-1	12-1	16
Omistar	12-1	12-1	12-1_	12-1		World Presiden	161	12-1	20-1	16-1	1
plimietic	14-1	12-1	141	14-1		Caratha City	25-1	284	25-1	25-1	2
west Reward	16-1	20-1	20-1	20-1		Lew Cornelask	m 25-1	23-1	20-1	25-1	2
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8 4-12 RAFFAELLO (5) (SF) (Alexamento La Nuova Stema SFL) M Channon 9.6. L. Dettori 8 103 10 38-50 SWEET REWARD by (C.S. Steeps) J. C. Smyth-Datours 9.5. ________ Reviews 10 10 11 5845 HIGHWAYMAN (28) (Highders Throughder Racing Lind M Stoute 8.4. _M J. Khanes 3 60 - 11 declared - GETTING: 5-1 Righwayman, 6-1 Neutleal Ster, 13-2 Leat Christmes, 7-1 Baselian, Smart Squall, Khales, 8-1 Carry The Riog, 10-1 Raffaello, 12-1 Komistar, Optimietic, 25-1 Sweet Reward 1997: The Ry 3 8 2 M Hills 4-1 Ji fav (8 Hills) drawn (52 19 m) FORM GUIDE (CHALAS did nothing wrong as a two-year-old and perhaps he can emulate The Fly here, with Berry Hill: horses going so well. Khales has yet to race behind seven furfongs but there's plenty of stamina or has dam side. Hills elso runs Leat Christmes, second to a useful type in Scormed in a conditions race on heavy ground at Kempton and, Rice so many of these, open to improvement. A possible exception in that respect, is Berwellan, sure to find life tougher after going up 9th for the wide-mergin win at Doncaster. Not that Beavsen nan budy when stepped up to a mile and a half in High And Mighty's race at Chester, and two lengths behind him there was Noble Demand, the horse touched off by Nautical Star at Newmarket, This could be more Bawsien's trip. Neutical Star commends respect even though hets up 6th and might eventually do better over longer distances, Highwayman was about six lengths behind Neutical Star at Newmarket but has a 9th put and many heve meaded the outing (he was easy to back). Smart Squawi's Listed win at Toucuse malees han difficult to assess but the fact that he was tripd in the Golup Three Horis Hill at Newdoury beforehand (titt to La-Fa) suggests he has quelify to run well under the fact in the thought the fact the part has been the fact that he had the fact in the foreign.

York **HYPERION** 2.05 Largesse 2.35 Nautical Star (nb) 3.40 SHELTERING SKY (пар) 4.10 Pipalong 4.40 Laurentide 3.10 Midnight Line GOING: Good (Good to Soft in back straight). STALLE: 51 61 & 71 - strands side; round course - inside. DRAW ADVANTAGE: None. OLEPH-hand, U-shaped course, Flat and ideal for the powerful gallope. OLEPH-hand, U-shaped course, Flat and ideal for the powerful gallope. OLEPH-hand, U-shaped course, Flat and ideal for the powerful gallope. OCOURSE is 11 south of city on A1038. York rail straight in ... ADMISSION: County Stand E34 (16-23 year-olds £15); Tattersells £13; Silver Ring £5 (OAPs £2.50); Course Enclosure £3 (OAPs £150), Reductors for 3-day badges. CAH PARK: £2, remainder free. OLEADING TRAINERS: M Stoute £5-20 (208%), H Ceell 19-80 (288%), B Hills 14-109 (128%), J Dunilop 12-75 (16%), P Cole 12-101 (119%), L Cumant 11-74 (289%), OLEADING JOCKEYS; L Destort 39-178 (219%), Pall Eddary £5-772 (145%), J Reid 21-144 (148%), K Fallon 20-154 (13%), W R Swinburn 14-79 (177%), T Oulem 14-149 (34%), OFAVOURITES: 174-195 (33.2%), BILINKERED FIRST TIME: None. LONG DISTANCE RUNNERS: Sheltering Sky (340) & Eltayq (440) sent 255 miles.

2.05 YORKSHIRE LIFE MAGAZINE HANDICAP (CLASS C) £12,500 added 1m 4f £9,625
1 St6-t2 LARGESSE (27) (U) (Mrs Rosemery Moszkowicz) John Berry 4 10 0 K Fellon 10 55
2 1200-6 TYKEYVOR (21) (D) (Seymour Bloodstock (UK) Ltd) Lady Hernes B 89C Duffield 7 107
3 12010- TESSAJOE (199) (D) (Piley Partnership) Miss J A Camecho 688 L Charnock 8 94
4 50100- CELESTIAL CHOIR (J46) (CD) [Min Cardle Sylves) J L Byre 9 8 8 J Westver 3 94
5 1225-4 DARK GREEN (USA) (9) (HRH Prince Fahd Selmen) P Cole 4 9 2T Quiant 13 90
8 0350-5 WAFIR (8) (D) (Kenneth MacPhersons P Calver 682 J Carroll 12 D4
7 5032 CRYSTAL FALLS (b) (C H Sevens) T Easterby S 8 8 L Detted 2 113
8 -6600 DUKHAN (USA) (27) (D) (Ats Jan Fletcher) E Alston 488
9 3/3610 MIGHT CITY (5) (D) (Mgc) Shields) K Burks 7 85
10 CO-080 JACK THE LAD (10) (Kerth West Partnership) J Herherton 4 8 3
71 DID-06 BEGORRA7 (5) (Miles Flynn) D Moffatt 4 9 1
12 000-15 NO CLICHES (15) Mark A Leathant D Nicholls S 80. F Norton 4 84
13 6-5006 AFRICAN SUN (S) (Noel Fleicher) M Chapman 67-10
= 13 decimed =
Minimum weight-yet-10th: True hendicap weight: African Sun Sci 8th.
BETTING: 7-2 Crystal Palls, 6-1 Colestial Choir, 13-2 Lurgeaus, 7-1 Deck Green, 8-1 Tylogyror, Night City;

BETTING 7-2 Crystal Pala, 6-1 Colestial Choir, 13-2 Largema, 7-1 Dark Green, 8-1 Tylesyvor, Night Cay, 10-1 Walt, 12-1 No Cliches, 14-1 Darkter, Reharlos, 24-1 Begornst, Jack The Lad, 66-1 African Star 1887. Angus-6 5-9 Til K Darloy 2-1 fee (this M Beeley) down (§) 12 ran PORM GUIDE.

Crystal Palls hasn't raced much since his two-year-old days but he still has the ability to wird a handicap such as this, having finished a close second, running on, to Mowelge at Donocaster lass week. With Prankle Dettori on board again and an extra quarter-mile to be the answer. Third to Parnacid Sun in this face I way years ago, Tykeyvor was a long way off the werner, High-Rise, in a conditions race at Ponteriact first time back, but that ren-furlog trip is on the short site for Tykeyvor these days, plus the race was un at a crawl early on. Tykeyvor kn't bedly handicepped and doesn't mind cut in the ground and, with Darish Pithpasody witning at Haydock on Sunday, the signs are that Lady Herries' Arctic Trander carried foot when he won this three years ago and Largeseae looks sure to go well under the same big weight. Selection: TYKEYVOR

	2.35 SHEPHERD TROPHY RATED HANDICAP (CLASS C4
	1 013-2 KOMUSTAR (25) (SF) (Class Act) P Hams 8 7
i	2 Offsi - SMART SQUALL (USA) (USB) (George Ward) Lord Huntingdon 9 8
ĺ	4 2-1114 BAWSIAN (8) (D) (David Scott) J L Eyre S 13
	5 50-1 NAUTICAL STAR (28) (D) (Michael Wauchope) J Hills 8 12

			1m 21 8	oyus rena	ty value 1	25,700		
	1	105-1	MEXIGHT LI	NE (LISA) (B) (D)	(HAHPmes F	and Selman) H Ce	d B 10K	Fallon 3 1
	2	220.	ALIGNMENT	(226) (Lord Yilgins	lock) M. Stoute 8	8	W R S	Ambum 4
	3	3-34	ANNA (B) (C)	Brittain) C Britta	n 88		DH	untern 2
	4	11-	BAHR (270) (Sodolphn) Seeed	bin Surcor & 8.			Dettori 1 #
					- 4 decimed -			
	BE	TING:	4-5 Midnight L	me, 2-1 Bahr, 6-	1 Alignment, 16	-1 Anca		
	199	7: Reen	ns Of Verse 3.9	TI K Fallon 11-10	hav (H Cecal) the	awn (9) 10 ren		
					ORM GUIDE			
	Fee	t onu	nd suits a Ge	nerous .so his	daughter Bah	r is going to giv	e MIDNIG	HIT LINE
	IRC	e Few	can dispute	the superiority	of Midmont L	ine over her ny	als in the	Pretty Po
	at I	Newme	arfett nine da	at ago. Not too	many defy t	he penalty in ti	et rece. b	ut Michio
	Lin	e did d	to the time	of eight lengths	trom Legger	a. Bahr should :	religh this	tast ten fi
i	h	as lin	besten at two	when trained	by Barry Hill	s, Behr best th	a colta at	Newbury
	Au	est of	fter the wery	ensu win on he	or debut at D	oncaster Those	wins imp	vessed t
	Ga	- Infohis	n team entre	to secure he	r for Dubei ec	nd Bahr's chanc	a has to to	ook bright
	-	country and	Cane Marrie	wire for the war	the the Grine	es. Alignment,	beaten a	short he
1			the line of G	curturond on he	or anyond etc	art and now 20	hetter of	ren her
Ł		and the	for too band o	the Ellino's fills	or Accest and	finished turther	hobbart M	chairche I le
•	Ch	on the		net and is but	or than Anna	, who was nine	learning as	ditte of SE
ı			in the Pretty		101 FIGUR SANTO	Color	tion: MEDI	WCLT I B
1	III		a a ora righty	rupy.		-	fundir harri	-C411 D4
1								
ı	12		CI III BE	PT OFFE	PATED	HANDICAP	-	
	-13	3.4U	SOUTH ACC		-44-40	CHA COA	The state of	C4
				B) £20,000	90060 0	1,12,099	•	
		0000	DOMEST E POP	ENTRYCKIE MY IPP	A C Princered D	Edward D 67	D Sugar	14 PT ven

Horris Hill at Newbury beforehand (tittli to La-Fa) suggests he has quality to not well under 9st 6th in this handlesp. Bluehrant, who best topweight Kontistar in a four-runner conditions race at Notinghiam, carri have given his true running when tailed of four in last Thursday's Dee Stakes at Chester won by Prob.

3.10 TATTERSALLS MUSIDORA STAKES (Group 3) (CLASS A) £45,000 added 3YO Tim 2f 85yds Penalty Value £25,700

3.40 GUILBERT OFREX RATED HANDICAP SESSE (CLASS B) £20,000 added of £12,699 1 3002-1 DOUBLE SPLENDOUR (9) (CD) (E Rolinson) P Felgrate 8 97
1 3012-1 DOUBLE SPLENDOUR (9) (CD) (E Rolinson) P Polyme 8 9 7
2 \$6000- CMAIA CITY (2017) (Brism Gubby Ltd) B Gubby 4 6 4
3 100-64 THE PUZZLER (R) (D) (Lody Richard Whitesley) B Hits 7 8 3
4 24-63 DOUBLE ACTION (10) (CD) (BF) (CH Stevens T Esstarby 4.9.2
5 604-02 SUPERIOR PREMIUM (10) (J C Parsons) R Februy 4 8 2
8 00340 WORLD PREMIER (226) (D) (Mrs.C.E.Britain) C.Britain 5.8 0
7 105-0 LAW COMMISSION (27) (D) (Reymord Tooth) D Sworth 8 9 13
7 105-0 LAW COMMISSION (27) (D) (Reymord Tooth) D Sworth 8 9 13
8 040(h) DOMULLA (\$12) (D) (A W Boon) T D Macenthy 8 9 (3 S Senders 3 8 253-51 SHELTERING SKY (10) (D) (V Behrens Susan Abbott) J Dunlop 4 8 12 Pat Editory 11 1
8 253-51 SHELTERING SKY (10) (D) (V Behvens Susan Abboth) J Dunlop 4 8 12 Pat Edidary 11 1
A 43404 SEMINDE CHALLET OF COLUMN TO SENSO IN LEGICAL OS
11 2101-0 GENERALIE (10) (D) (BP) (M. J. Dawson) L. Cumani 4 67R Phench 18 :
12 002-80 RETURN OF AMEN (34) (CD) (Shelich Amin Dahlawi) J Bethell 487
13. 532022 ZIGGY'S DANCER (USA) (S) (D) (BF) (J. Connor) E Alston 78 7

Managam weight: Bet 7th. True handkap weights: Return Of Amin Bot 6th, Ziggy's Dancer Bot 4th.

Hereford HYPERION 1.50 Island Sanctuary 2.20 Woodrising 2.55 Art Prince 3.25 Arctic Chanter 3.55 Drum Battle 4.25 Lets Twist Again 4.55 Tricky Trevor 5.25 The Gardener GOING: Good. GOING: GOOD. - Right-inand course with 300yds run-tr. - Right-inand course with 300yds run-tr. - Course is N of city on A48. Hereford station Im. ADMISSION: - Club 113; Tattersals 210; Course Enclosure 25. Accompanied unele-rics free all enclosures. CAR PARIK: Free. - ELEADING TRAINERS: M Pipe 33-98 (337*N.) N Twiston-Davies - B-10 (254%), N Hendorroon 15-31 (464%), P Hobbs 15-68 (22.7%). - ELEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 28-67 (259%), C Linewillyn 22-90 - ELEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 28-67 (259%), C Linewillyn 22-90

275%), M A Fizgerald 2:49 (845%), J R Kavenagh 11-82 (177%). •FAVOURITES: 223-56 (398%). BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Suramerville Wood (visored, 325).	3.25 LAZY CONDITI
1.50 NATIVE BREAK HURDLE (CLASS E) 23,000 added 4YO 2m 3f 110yds 1 02052 ANOTHER NIGHT (14) P Murphy 115 R Perment 2 4321 BLAND SANCTUARY (8) 0 Nicroton 10 2 R Johnson 3 8 KLONDIKE CHARGER (USA) (10) J Old 10 2 CLIMANDYO 4 RANNING FREE (9214) K Baley 10 2 N Williamson 5 02 SHAHBOOR (USA) (10) Mis P Robeston 10 2 M Richards 8 SWEET BELLE N Bibblogs 10 7 R Thombon -8 declared R Thombon	(CLASS 1 F404F- LABLEMUM 60 2 JS-27S SKY GURST 22 3 D4-071 ARCTIC CHAM 4 02422 DOVETTO 89 (0 5 -08570 RUM FOR COM 8 03350 SK45LAS DR24 7 00650 DESIGNER 18 8 285750 DOWT TELL TO
BETTING: 6-4 inland Sanctuary, 3-1 Shahboor, 7-2 Another Night, 6-1 Rub- nius Grae, 8-1 Klossifice Charges, 20-1 Sweet Belle	8 1-3F66 SLEAZEY (42) (10 6002 CHARLE CHA
2.20 HOLMER SELLING HURDLE (CLASS G) \$2,000 added 2m 3f 110yds	11 6-PP31 SPECIALIZE (S) 12 320600 FLAHIVES FIRE
1 SEESP NORTH END LADY (48) (BF) Mrs Librari 7 ti 1 M Batchaky (5) 1 2 SEE-83 OUT RANKING (FR) (8) (D) J Neville B ti 1	13 006 SUMMERVILLE 14 055 CARTOUCHE (
3 20527 WOODRISING (\$) C Eparton 8 11 1	16 -OPCSO SPENCER STA
6 PP056 SEL-05-MOOR on D Whate 6 10 9	Maintan weight 10st. True has Naved the Oth. Contracted Dat 1

AVITA (S) (EF) JS Moore 4 10 3	
- B declared	
Runking, 7-2 Aquitella, 4-1 Woodkining, 8-1 Modificatio, 10-1 12-1 North East Carly, 14-1 North Bens, 20-1 Bel-De-Moor	
Not like til men starli i der somer mendem s ale me mende.	

2.55 LAZY PUNTER'S BLACK BOOK HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,500 added 3m 1f 110vds ART PRINCE (4) (D) C Brooks 3 27 (780) ...

1 P3SF4: ART PRINCE (4) (2) C Brooks 3 2 7 (7es) ______ M Barry (5)
2 TIF-PP CHCHESTRAL SUTE (103) (3P) MS G Fidgeo 178 8 Mr Nimb (5)
3 2870 FLARARCK LAD (77) (3P) N Twiston-Davies 8 TI 9 .C Liensilys
4 1-04F1 THE IRDE CAPTAIN (49) D Stermood TI TI 9 _____ G Upton
5 233383 DROMHANA (47) (2) P Nichols 9 TI 3 _____ MA Fitzgerald 2
9 P5440 ABBCTSHAM (7) C Carter 13 TI 4 _____ Mr J Young (7)
7 3P3SSP TOUR LEADER (42) (46) (47) (48) (48) The Mins (1) Nim J Young (7)
8 FTOUR LEADER (42) (46) (47) The Mins Captain, 11-2
Dromhana, 8-1 Orchestral Scille, 12-1 Tour Leader, 25-1 Abbotshama

PUNTERS BLACK BOOK

TONAL NOVICE H'CAP HURDLE E) £3,000 added 2m 1f OLD (367) K Bridgwater 7 7 11 ... M Griffiths (5) | Solid (0) | P. | Polic | S. | Solid (0) | P. | Solid (0 (CS) AL Wilderson 4 10 8 L. Cummins
EE WOOD (10) A Forbes 40 0 E Husband V
(CS) AL Wilderson 4 10 0 P Healey
TT (65) N Tweston Davies 4 10 0 L. Goodstein (6)
ALLONE (8) Grasme Roe 5 10 8 L. S Graham (R)

-15 declared -Marinum weight 10st. True hardings weights: Flating's Fire But 12th, Sum Nood St Stb. Cartesche Set Stb. Major Tusti Stt Stb. Spencer Stations Std Tb. SETTING: 9-2 Sky Danat, 11-2 Dovetio, 6-1 Specializes, 8-1 Charlie Chang, Shalla's Dream, 18-1 Arctic Charles, Labraroum Gold, 12-1 Shatzay, 14-1 Don't Ted Tota, 18-1 Flative's First, Major Twist, Rise For Cover, 20-1 others

3.55 AST GROUP GLASS PIG SYNDICATE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £4,000

...... D Harrison 2 93

added 2m 3f 110yds

10 "CCCU Wint LET HUGE (es) mass ? Whater 7 to Common to the State of Hallmann weight: 10st. This handicap weights: Junt Jeemine Set 13th, Sand Set 13th, Copper Coll Set 10th, Winter Floss Set 9th, SETTINUS 2-1 Medium 10th, Set 14th 13-2 Drane Bettle, 7-1 Nolary Millows, 8-1 Born To Planes, Cardon Vertura, 10-1 Winter Rose, 12-1 Copper Coll, Future King, Courageous Knight, 18-1 others

4.25 BROCKHAMPTON HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H) £1,800 added 3m 1f 110yds 13125 BUZZ O'THE CROWD (26) (CD) Miss A Handal 11 127___ 2 S43U2P HIGHTROY FIVE (6) (CD) Lady S Brooks 10 127 Miles E James (7) S F22SP TOMPS GENERAL STAR (7) D Center 10 127 Julies E James (7) 4 P1PSSR HENRY BRUCE (PS) C A Smits 8 20 Julie 10 Mensoll (7) 5 -32F33 LETS TWIST AGAIN (PH) Mrs N Shappard 8 12 0 Miles 12 Mil 8 OP-1FS MAYPOLE FOUNTAIN (PS) (RF) M. Jackson 8128... O-335 NATIVE RAMBLEB (6) Min A Price B 128 ... Mr B Blackwei (7) 8 22/320 PLICKY PUNIER (13) June 10 120 ______ Mr D 5 Junes (7) 8 /rSP40 VOUNG MARINER (10) Junes 17 12 0 _____ Mr D D J Davies (7)

- 9 declared -SETTING: 7-4 Buzz O'The Crowd, 9-2 Mappele Fountain, 11-2 Native Rev-bler, 13-2 Labs Twist Agels, 7-1 Highway Five, 10-1 Plucky Punter, 12-1 Heary Bruce, 14-1 Young Mariner, 16-1 Tom's Gensini State 4.55 MARDEN STANDARD OPEN NH FLAT

MARDEN STANDARD OPEN NH FLAT 5.25 MARDEN STANDARD OF 1,500 added

8 SPEEDY (75) in in 165 K Balley 5 11 4 R Massey (3) 3 THE GARDENERT (165 K Balley 5 11 4 R Massey (3) 0 WILL ASSUME (90) R Brazington 6 11 4 R Massey (3) 0 WINSY O'GRADY (152) J S Moore 5 11 4 J Magne (5) 0 WINSEY O'GRADY (152) J S Moore 5 11 4 J Magne (5) 0 WINSEY O'GRADY (152) A Carrol 5 11 4 S Mynne (5) 0 DROP M Malineaux 4 10 13 S Wynne V Sindlery V Sindlery O IZZY MY BOY (48) O O'Neil 4 10 18 ... NESHER Mis J Planta 4 10 13 - 12 declared EETTNG:7-4 The Gardene, 11-4 Speedy, 100-30 Ventur, 9-2 John Bust,
12-1 Moneypoint Sent, 20-1 Another Gardenen, Will Assume. Williams Could Declare County of the County OTTER VALLEY O CANAR B TO TO.

12-1 Moneypoint Sats, 20-1 Another Gentleman, Will Assum O'Grady, Wrighey's, Gold Drup, Izzy My Boy, 50-1 Otter Valley

Berry notches

THE trainer Jack Berry sent out 1: 2. Theatre of Dreams 11-2; 3. Swift 7-2

> Berry, 60, is best known today for his handling of two-yearolds. He set a record for the most juvenile winners in a season (63) in 1989 and broke it in

Ansellman gave him victory number 1,501 30 minutes later.

The Sporting Life



RIP: The Sporting Life 1859-1998

By Greg Wood

THE SPORTING LIFE. which appeared for the last time as a racing paper this morning, was born into a volatile mid-19th century publishing market in which the longevity of new arrivals was often measured in months rather than years. It was the same year, 1859, that the Jockey Club banned the racing of yearlings, and six years before Gladiateur became the first foreign-bred colt to win the Derby, thus earning the nickname

the Avenger of Waterloo". The competition was fierce. but racing was ecormously popular, with off-course bookmakers, despite their illegal status, doing a roaring trade. Accurate information on such vital details as entries and weights was often difficult to come by, however, and by both improving the service and reporting results and starting prices reliably and accurately, the Life soon carved a valuable niche in the market.

Other racing publications, such as The Sportsman, either struggled or were absorbed by the Life. Whether in the drawing rooms of country houses or the back rooms of illegal bookies, the Life was the absolute authority oo the daily news of the Turf. Bets-often aid entirely on the basis of the information in the Life.

Eveo when it was well past its century, and racing coverage had extended to the mainstream daily press, the Life was live on in cyberspace.

still seeing off the competition. With writers of the quality of Jeffrey Bernard oo its books. the Life seemed set fair for another 100 years, and there was even an award for the Campaigning Journalist of the Year in 1979, awarded to the paper's

chief reporter, John McCririck. The rival which would be its oemesis, however, appeared in 1986. The Racing Post was funded by the Maktoum brothers, who did not always agree with the oppositioo's analysis of their position in British racing (the Life was actually banned in Dubai for three weeks in 1988). Just as the Life swallowed Victorian competitors, now it too has succumbed, and it is anyone's guess how long its name will

last on the Post masthead. Yesterday it was anoounced that John Mulholland, media editor of The Guardian, had been appointed editor of the Life and that the paper would return as an all-sports daily in October. with a target circulation of around \$0,000 to 90,000 and a staff of 80.

Mirror Group deputy chief executive Kelvin MacKenzie said the new Life would be "neither upmarket nor down, but accessible to all sports fans".

In the meantime, there is one place where you will be able huge - were struck, lost and to take the Life - the Internet site (www.sporting-life.com). The Life which was born in the age of Empire and the Industrial Revolution is no more, but its electronic little hrother will

The Post, which had al-

ready racked up losses of

£40m since its launch, per-

suaded Sheikh Mohammed

to dig deeper into his coffers

by bankrolling a second, betting-shop, edition to supply the

ing product to split the market

for an existing one is, eco-

nomically speaking, bonkers.

But, thanks to a culture of

petro-dollar-subsidy-induced

complacency, the language of

the economist has never been

The deed was done, the

bookies deserted the Life in

droves for the betting shop

Post and - as the Life's sales

plummeted by about 33 per

cent - the Post had finally

bought its way into being the

ed, limped on until December

1997 when David Mont-

gomery, the chief executive of

Mirror Group, which owns the

Life, did an "if you can't beat

'em, buy 'em" deal with the

Sheikh to publish the Post un-

der licence and close the Life,

a Pyrrhic victory. The Post's

losses were never brought un-

der control and surely that is

why, as his disenchantment

with the economics of racing

in Britain deepened, the

Sheikh decided to sell the

Post and its staff into the lov-

ing care of the Mirror Group.

Montgomery has pledged

For the Post, however, it is

as we know it, forever.

The Life, mortally wound-

top-selling racing daily.

en vogue at the Post.

Adding a second loss-mak-

bookmakers.

lan Davies, who has worked for both papers, on the rise and fall of the Racing Post and The Sporting Life

THE Life is dead, the Post lives to complain and - with the on, yet just two years ago, the help of its benefactor - the Life was the market leader. Post capitalised on it. selling 69,000 copies daily to the Post's 49,000. What went wrong? Whodunnit? Did the Post murder its rival, or did the Life commit suicide? And what will life, post-Life, be like?

The Post, wheo it launched in 1986, failed to burt the Life. Following the closure of the Sporting Chronicle, the Life's former broadsheet rival, in 1983, the Life gained 7,000 sales to betting shops, yet the brains hehind the Post squandered the chance to gain those 7,000 sales at the direct expense of the Life by introducing the Post as a tabloid. In 1986 and 1987 the Post sold only 38,000, whereas the Life, boosted by a price cut from 40p to 25p - the launch price of the Post -source to 85,000.

The Post, sustained by massive subsidy from its owner, Sheikh Mohammed, made steady, but hardly decisive, headway. By April 1996 the Post sold 49,000 whereas the Life, which lost sales to betting shops after shrinkage in the bookmaking industry, sold 69,000.

Then a moment of madness. The Life made a Gerald Ratner of itself in June 1996 by initiating its oow infamous "reader-friendly reshuffle". The Life's design had, until this point, catered for the betting shops. The race cards and form flowed across the same sheet of newsprint, leapfrog-

ging through the paper. The new "reader-friendly" Life placed race cards and form on sequential pages. For the readers, things were easier to find. However, with race cards Post but, as a glance at the corand form now backing on to each other, betting shops suddenly needed two copies of the Life to fulfil the function that

to increase resources at the porate form book reveals, that is not Montgomery's way.

Montgomery is the Arkie of cost-cuttiog and it is long odds-on that, post-Life, the racing industry will be serviced by a single publication, which progressively becomes leaner

Results

REDCAR 2.16: 1. RED CHARGER (G Carter) 5-4 tas; 2. Diapot Clean 9-2; 3. So Willing 14-1. 12 ran, 1%, hd. (J Berry, Cockertnem). Total: 220: 510, 52-0; 5530 Dual Forecast: 5580.

INDEPËNDENT RACING SERVICES 0891 261 + LIVE COMMENTARIES RESULTS 981 971 YORK HEREFORD 972 982 0891 261 <u>970</u>

2.45: 1. ANSELLMAN (G Carter) 10-4; 2. Pierpoint 9-2; 3. May 53-1.7 ran. 9-4 tav Sea-Deer (8th.) 3'/s, 1'/s. (J Berry, Cocker-ham). Tota: 2340; 1'150, 1330. Dual Forecast: £1190- Computer Straight Forecast:

3.15: 1. PINE RIDGE LAD (Mr R Latiam) 71-4 fax; 2. Alphas Holderway 12-1; 3. Beau Roberto 18-1 14 ran. nk, 7. (J L Syre, Tresk). Roberto 18-1 14 ran. nk, 7. (J L Syre, Tresk). Roberto 18-1 14 ran. nk, 7. (J L Syre, Toecast: 52480. Computer Statight Forecast: 53525. Treast: 543833. Tric. \$41440. Non

Rumer, Tiest
S.45: 1. CELESTIAL WELCOME (A Cut-Note: 5.2 tay; 2. Al Reet 8-1; 3. Time of Night 6-1 11 ran. ½. 5 Mrs M Reveley, Selburn). Tota: 54.20; 51.51. 53.21, 53.31. DF: 9590, CSF: 524.5 Tricast \$1008. Tric. 4.15: 1. GOLD MIST (6 Carter) 7-2: 2. El Ghezzas 3-1; 3. Abi 9-4. 5 ran. 15-8 fav.

India (4th) 13, 3 (R Armstrong, Newmerket) Tota: £4,70; £2,50 £1,30 DF. £5,00 CSF: 4.45: 1, ARDLEIGH CHARMER (R A.45: 1. ARULETAN CATAMAKEN PI Prench 3-1; 2. Chlo-lo 33:; 3. Lady Bachel 10-1; 4. Happy Days 33-1: 17 ran-9-4 he Prince Bestnoot 2.2 (C Dwyer, Nam-market, Tolor: \$430; £120; £430, £230, £880, DF. £15100, CSF. £11108, Thoast

E90136. Trio: E59390 (part won, pool of EXB36 carried forward to York 340 today). After a stawards' inquiry, the result stood. Jackpot: £7,100.00 (pert won, pool of £3,253.30 carried forward to York today). Place 6: £23530. Quarlpot: £3350. Place 6: £239.78, Place 5: £59.43.

SOUTHWELL 2.00: 1, LUCKY BEGONIA (C Caver) 9-2 far, 2. Markati 33-1; 3. Head Gardener 5-1; 4. Shadilecock 20-1 15 ran. 3, 2 (A Carrol, Worceser), Table 5280; 5180, 5150, 5250, 5150, 5240, Dual Forecast: \$10940, CSF: \$16151. Tricest: £33867. Tric: £20240 (part won, pool ci 210265 carried forward to York 3,40 to

?? 2.30: 1, Italian Symphony (a Mo-Carry) 3-1; 2. Elion Ladger 9-4 tax; 3. Bold Aristocrat 10-1. 9 ran. 11%, nk. (P. Esana, Weishpool), Total: £500; £110. £160, £310, DF; VMESTPOON, SOME ESSAT, STATE THOU ESSAT CSF; 2567; INC. 5480.
3.00: 1. DUMA LINE (M Ferticn) 12-1; 2.
Lady Jazz 7-1; 3. Hollowary Melody 10-1; 4. Elna Magic 11-4 fex 16 ran, nk, nd. (M: Bell, Newtonation), Total 52200; 5140, 6140, 5290.
5290, 5190. Dual Forescast 24700. CSF; 10-10-10.

991.52 Tricost £850.33 Trio: £359.30 Insert

wor, pool of \$22268 carned forward to York

3.30: 1, LITTLE MOVIE STAR (J Wester) 15-8; 2. Sweet Compliance 50-1; 3, Ollecto 33-1, 15 ran. 7-4 few Retallator (Sth), 21/4, 11/4, (B Meshan, Lambourn), Total 5280; 2101, 1000, 1000 pp. 1000 174. (a Medical Cambosing, 1985; 1220; 214), 19520, 2700. DF: 227980. CSF: 27258 Trio: (not won, pool of S4285 carried forward to York 340 today). 4,00: 1. PALACE GREEN (A Mackey) 9-

4 fey; 2. Bodferi Anna 14-1; 3. David 4-1, 10 rac. 1'/s, frd. (M Chermon, Upper Lambourn), Tota: £3.50; £100, £710, £2.20. Dual Forecast: £2800. CSP: £3755. Tota Trio: 4,30: 1, FRIENDLY KNIGHT (J Quint) 12-1; 2. Batousoffheblue 11-1; 3. Nildle's Star 14-1, 12 ran. nk, 2½, (liks A Johnson, New-marked, Tote: \$1350; \$220, \$220, £300. DF:

25700 CSF: £122.46. Tricast £189563. Trio:

Placepot: £270.40. Quadpot: £5100. Place 6: £25104. Place 5: £6427. TOWCESTER 5.50: T. SHAHRANI (A P McCov) 4-7 fee: 2. Beam Janine 5-1; 3. Autumn Flame 9-1. 13 ran. 5, 15 (M Pipe). Yote: £150; £150; £130; £150; Dupi Forecast: £370; Comput-er Straight Forecast: £451. Yin: £410. Non-Runner: Ben Bowden.

6.15: 1. MR POPPLETON (A Thornto 11-1: 2. Indian Temple 11-2 test; 3. Anoth er Comedy 5-1, 14 ren. 18, 5. (R Brotherton). Total: £1930; £360, £190, £220. DF: £3700. CSF: £7288. Tricant: £49457. Tric: £15140. Non Runner: Allegro Prince. WINDSOR 6.05: 1. WINGS AWARDED (T Cluim) 12-

tay, 18 ram. t, rik. (M Channon). Total: 21200; \$270, £220, £150 DF: £8000 CSF: 278.59 This: 285.00. 6.30: 1. COURT SHAREEF (W.R. Swin-630: 1. Culti artistic for post-burn 10-1; 2. Tiguillo 12-1; 3. Katien Cracian 20-1; 4. Phanton Waters 5-1 20 ran, 9-2 for liver Beat. 2th. 7. (R Deirn). Tobe: £590; £340, £870, £320, £210, DF. £2250. CSF: £2444. Trienst. £2,9749.

ine: not won (pool of \$56218 carned forward

Support for Dr Fong in tomorrow's Dante Stakes at York continued yesterday. Coral cut the Henry Cecil-trained colt to 11-4 favourite.

1,500th winner

the 1,500th winner of his career at Redcar yesterday. Fittingly, it was a two-year-old who took him to the landmark, as Red Charger battled on well to take the 'Crow's Nest Restaurant' Novice Median Auction Stakes.

one had previously done. It was the mother of all mistakes. each of the next two years.

The wail of the century ensued as enraged bookmakers jammed the Life's telephones and meaner.

Survival game beyond newcomers

Promoted one season to the élite: relegated the next. Guy Hodgson looks for the causes of the Premiership's yo-yo syndrome

ON THE way back from Blackburn on Sunday evening the stark difference between inclusion and exclusion from the Premiership was driven home. On one road a bedraggled sign reading "Good luck Boltoo" was sadly being taken down while on the M60 a car with Evertoo scarves draped from the windows had the word "Phew!" io the back window.

Safety and relegation; relief and despair. If you had takeo a poll of football supporters a fortnight ago most would have the mooeybags of Evertoo or Tottenham living in the reduced circumstances of the First Division in preference to Barnsley and Bolton. Some beoefit it did them. As Danny Wilson put it succinctly: "All the goodwill in the world will oor get you

There was local angst oo Sunday night, but despair spread beyond the local communities of South Yorkshire and Greater Manchester (or south London in Crystal Palace's case) to everyone who embraces democracy in football. For the three promoted sides of 1996-97 to go straight hack to the First Divisioo seemed to emphasise the gap that has grown between the Premiership and the rest.

The City thought so, too, yesterday wiping around a quarter off the value of the shares in Burnden Leisure, the company that owns Bolton, That was not football romanticism speaking hut cold, realistic money. Leave the Premiership at the bottom eod and you are relegated in tables more pertinent than the ones that read: played, won, drawn and lost.

Look over a longer period and a pattern is emergiog. have been promoted in the last

TEE TIME.

REPEATED SUNDAYS 1.40PM.

Everton - stayed up **Gareth Famel** £700,000 F15m £450,000 West Ham Viking Stavanger Sheffield United Thomas Mhyre 2800,000 £500,000 Mitch Ward Michael Madar John O'Kane Sheffield United Deportivo La Consta £400,000 Shalled United Matt McKay Chester City £500,000 OPR ... • £1.5m Lausanne Maio Heliger \$25,000 David Unsworth West Ham : Shaffield United 2850,000 Andy Hinchcliffe Sheffield Wednesday Gary Speed Newcastle United . 25.5m

Blackpool

Sheffield United

AB Copenhagen

Sheffield Wednesday

Are golfers mad?

NEW SIX-PART SERIES STARTS TONIGHT 8PM,



INS: Net:Cex Robbie Elliott Mark Fish Amar Guniaugsson Dean Holdsworth-Gaetano Glallenza John Salako

CTTO:

Scott Green

Mbor Pastelainen

Simon Coleman

TOTAL INS

John McGinlay

David Lee

Franz Carr

Bryan Small

Jamie Pollock

IA of Alganes 2100,000 Wimbledon VPS Finland 2350,000 Free ' Coventry Bradford West Brom Southend. BUTY

Newcastle United

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2300,000 £250,000 £250,000 £625,000 DEFICIT

£2.2m

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Georgi Hristov £250,000 Cars Lees Georgi Hristov Bayer Leverkuser Partizan Belgrade Eric Tinkier --2650,000 Cacian 2750,000 **Bristol City** Darren Barnard mE.12 Ashley Ward ... Denter £250,000 Peter Markstedt £850,000 Jan Aage Footoft £250,000 Paul Williamson Steve Davis Oxford

£325.000

Barnsley - relegated

Crystal Palace - relegated Kevin Mile £350,000 IBV iceland Hermann Hreidarsson Part . Jame Fullation £1.25m Paul Warhurst TI SO .bwertis Attitio Lombardo £1.2m Royal Antwerp Itzbak Zobar 226 Neit Emblen £1m Jamie Smith 21.70 Michele Padova £300,000 Brentiord 275A Strasbourg Free F168 Leeds Cartisle Matt Jansen Aston Villa Lim: Sasa Curcic OUTS: 2386,800 Free Crystal Palace Chris Day Reading Ray Houghton \$300.000 David Hopkin Leyton Orient Jason Harris 800.900 Walves Dougle Freedman

2500,000 Kevin Muscat Swindon George Ndah 2180,000 2180,000 **Gareth Davies** Carl Veart Royal Anteres Itzhak Zohar **Andy Roberts** 2900,000 Neil Emblen TOTAL OUTS:

TOTAL INS

DEFICIT: m8.72

the First Division immediately while another two have also gone down since. Only Derby and Leicester City have survived, the latter at the second attempt, and even they were not without worries last spring.

John Hills

Jon D'Connor

Class.Thomsen

Neville Southall

Ead Barrett

"The first season is the most important," Colin Todd, the manager of Boltoo, said last week. "It makes or hreaks the ambitions of a club. Survive that and you have a chance."

So what does it take to endure beyond a first hrush with England's élite? The first ingredient, without question, is system prejudices against promoney. Only Wimbledon have moted teams even if it feath-

relative poverty over a lengthy period and they have had years of practice. Only an exceptional First Division side could prosper at a more rarefied level.

£75,000

Nominal

2500,000

Free

DEFICIT

That is understood; the remedy is less clear. Barnsley spent £5.5m since last summer, Bolton £10.6m and Crystal Palace £15.45m and still they went down. Two of the the teams just above them, Newcastle and Everton, have bankrolled their safety to the tune of £50m in the last four seasons.

Which underlines that the four seasons have returned to defied the downward pull of erbeds the landing of those £8m a season on average from

who are jettisoned from the Premiership. Relegated teams get half the television money of those in the top flight in what is known as a "parachute payment". Last year that amounted to £1.5m.

TOTAL DUTS:

This payment, which last two seasons, automatically gives those teams who drop into the First Division an advantage - it is no coincidence at least two of last year's three relegated clubs will return next seasoo - but the rest of the financial package is loaded against oewcomers to the top flight.

Premiership clubs receive

television rights while members of the First Division get around £800,000. That is a gigantic imbalance wheo it comes to buying but also means better players prefer to reap big wages in the reserves of Manchester United, Liverpool et al rather than drop a level. There are not many First Division players these days who would get automatic places with bigger

Of course, there is a difference in how you spend rather than how much. Leicester's most expensive purchase in their first season in the Premiership was Matt Elliott, a cen-

tre-back, while Derby also built from the back around Igor Stimac. Barnsley learned too late that mistakes which went unpunished in the First Division lead to goals at a higher level and it is dubious whether Palace ever took that oo board.

Which, in turn, leads to the man spending the money. Jim Smith and Martin O'Neill have been astute buyers, eschewing one big purchase in favour of spreading their mooey over a wider area. Smith, in particular, has benefited from foreign players with cheaper price tags. In cootrast oumerous Evertoo managers have shelled out mil- even themselves out, it is said,

lions of Peter Johnson's pounds and got very little in return. But you could be Alex Fer-

gusoo with the backing of Old Trafford's riches and get oowhere unless fate smiles oo you. Injuries can lay waste to good teams and the market can be a lottery. Eveo Jim Smith says he is surprised at Paulo Wanchope's impact while Dean Holdsworth looked a 24-carat Premiership striker wheo Bolton bought him from Wimhledoo and managed just three goals. Is that luck or judgement?

Then there is the impoo-

although you would be hard pressed to convince Bolton supporters who remember that Gerry Taggart had a header disallowed in the very first match at the Reebok Stadium even though televisioo evidence showed the ball had crossed the line. The opponents that day were Everton. That "goal" was the thin line between safety and the oblivion of relegation.

Nottiogham Forest, Middlesbrough and whoever comes up with them will oeed a lot going for them next season but ask a manager what he wants most derable, the bad decision. They - and he would give you a oneword answer. Luck.

Liverpool's United States

international goalkeeper, Brad

Friedel, hopes to learn this

week if the Government will re-

new his work permit, allowing

matches - the Government re-

quirement for a permit recew-

al - since signing from Major

League Soccer side Columbus.

Crew for £1m last December.

He is hoping for leniency

because the lengthy delay in

granting his original work permit

Friedel has failed to play in

him to stay at Anfield.

Bilic blasts Everton's broken promises

THE Evertoo chairman, Peter Johnson, was accused of breaking promises oo major signings last night - by ooe of his own

The unhappy Slaveo Bilic, bought for £4.5m from West Ham, claimed he was told he would be part of a £15m revolutioo at the club. Now, though, the Croatian international defender has hit out at Johnson for going back oo a plan to buy two Italian players, Dino Baggio and Pierluigi Casiraghi.

Bilic said: "I was made promises before I signed, I was told so many things, but I could see straight away it was not like that. I was told by Joe Royle that he was going to buy me, Baggio and Casiraghi. He told me he wanted me to be his leader of the field.

"I could have pulled out of the deal when Joe was sacked," Bilic added, "but the chairman spoke to me and said that eveo though he [Royle] had gone it was the same story."

Bilic thinks that the failure to close the deals for the Parma midfielder Baggio and the Lazio striker Casiraghi was one of the main reasons the club slumped. He said: "Missing out oo those players was not the

only reason for our disappointing seasoo, but maybe with Baggio and Casiraghi we could have been fighting for the

championship."

Bilicalso attacks the club for selling some of their best players during the season and oot replacing them with suitable talcut. "We had to do without Gary Speed, Andy Hinchcliffe and Graham Stuart, It's hard to lose that quality from the team," he said. "Why sell the best players from positions we are already short in?

"It was unbelievable that we did oot sign somebody before the transfer deadline. We didn't eveo make the effort to show people we were trying." Bilic always seemed likely to be oo his way this summer, and Howard Kendall left him out of Everton's last game against

SWEDISH police are prepared

for the worst when Chelsea meet

Germany's VfB Stuttgart in the

European Cup-winners' Cup

final in Stockholm tomorrow.

duty at the Rasunda stadium,

the largest police presence at a

Swedish sports event since the

Up to 1,000 police will be oo

Coventry. His words may now have guaranteed his exit. Newcastle's David Batty

faces a possible Football Associatioo misconduct charge, and a possible six-game ban for the start of oext season. Batty is in trouble for ap- 75 per ceot of Liverpool's.

pareotly pushing the referee, David Elleray, after he was sent off at his former cluh. Blackburn, on Sunday. Referees are under strict orders to stamp down on players man-. handling them, with Arsenal's Emmangel Petit and West Ham's Steve Lomas singled out this seasoo. Both were given fines and lengtheoed sus-

As Batty's third red card of the seasoo was for violeot conduct, that already guarantees him a five-match ban for the opening weeks of next season.

Swedish and British police

will also be at airports and ports

today and tomorrow to spot any

known hooligans, who could

be refused entry to the country.

But we also want to create an

atmosphere where everything

will go well and smoothly,"a po-

lice spokesman said.

"We are ready for the worst.

Swedish police on hooligan alert

meant his acclimatisation in the English game took longer than anticipated Friedel's Liverpool colleague, the England midfielder Jamie Redknapp, signed a

oew five-year contract to stay at. Anfield yesterday. Georgi Kinkladze's £5m transfer from Manchester City to Ajax appears to be on the brink of completion - the Georgian international has already appeared oo Dutch television wearing an Ajax shirt and drinking champagne with the direc-

tors of the Dutch champions. Jonathan Hayward has resigned as deputy chairman of Wolverhampton Wanderers. Hayward, Wolves' chairman for five years uotil 1997, has also given up his seat on the board.

1992 European Championships. Matthäus out of twilight zone

BERTI VOGTS, Germany's Matthias Sammer left the libero coach, has rescued his former captain Lothar Manhaus from the international wilderness and put him in his World Cup squad - alongside his old rival

Jürgen Klinsmann. Matthäus, Germany's mostcapped player with 122 appearances for his country, is the surprise inclusion in Germany's 22-man squad for the finals in France. He last represented his country against Albania oo December 18, 1994.

Matthaus was dropped from the German team two years ago, just before Euro 96, and chose at the time to criticise Vogts and to attack Klinsmann for allegedly lobbying to have him removed from the squad. The 37-year-old's international career had appeared to be over, but the long-term absence of

positioo wide open.

Only last week, Klinsmann who succeeded Matthaus as Germany's captain - agreed to end their long-running dispute, which dates back to the time they played together for Bayern Munich, for the good of the national side.

The Leeds United striker Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink has received an unexpected call-up to the Dutch World Cup squad.

The 26-year-old Surinamborn forward has scored 22 goals in his first seasoo in the Premiership following his £2m move from the Portuguese side Boavista last summer. He said: "Despite my name being meotioned, I hadn't seriously considered this possible. This is the

crowning glory of my career." Squads, Digest, page 27

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لكذا من ألاصل

Power · Henman gets to grips with clay game

Tennis

By John Roberts In Rome

COURT No 5 at the Foro Italico is much grander that it sounds, situated close to the Olympic Stadium and flanked by rnws of Mediterranean pines. It was in this beautiful setting yesterday that Tim Henman produced one of the most startling results by a Briton on clay for years. The 23-year-old from Oxford demuralised Fabrice Santoro, 6-1, 6-0.

Only three weeks ago in Monte Carlo, the clever Frenchman humiliated Pete Sampras, 6-1, 6-1, inflicting on the Wimhledon champinn his worst defeat for eight years. "I dug a hig hole for myself." Sampras said.

Santoro's performance yesterday suggested that he was longing for a hole to save him from further embarrassment. He arrived for the Italian Open heing able to impose his game saying he was tired after competing in Hamhurg last week, couple of the 61 minutes they and was simply nn match for Henman, who appears to have gained from the adversity of struggling to master the sport's slowest surface.

It will be interesting to see if Henman's improvement contiones in his second round match, in which he will play either Marcelo Rios, the hrilliant young Chilean groundstroker who was hriefly No 1 in the world until sidelined by an elbow iojury, or Marzio Martelli, an Italian wild card, ranked No 140.

Unfortunately, Greg Rused-

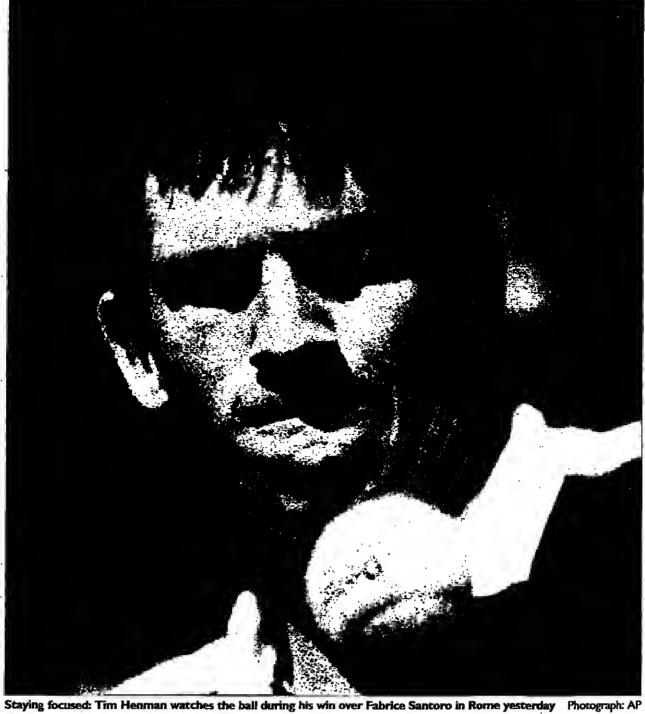
Britain's success yesterday, having played and lost in the first round to the Czech Bohdan Ulibrach, 7-5, 7-6, in the opening match nn Court Nn 5. Rusedski, the world Nn 5, although frequently nut-smarted by an opponent more comfortable on the surface, served for the opening set at 5-3 and was unable to convert any of three set points in the second set.

Henman's only previous clay court victories nn the mainstream ATP Tour were achieved against Sweden's Jan Apell in Hamhurg last week, against Germany's Jens Knippschild in Munich the week before, and against Spain's Roberto Carretero, who was ranked No 334 in the world when he retired burt in the first round here last year with Henman leading, 4-6. 7-5, 2-0,

Even allowing for Santoro's shurtcomings, Henman gained a good deal of confidence from on the Frenchman for all hut a were nn court. Santoro did not win a game until he was 0-5 down, and much of his play was woeful.

One of his most animated responses came after Henman struck a backhand volley directly at his body in the third game of the secood set. Santoro managed to deflect the ball with his racket, and theo appeared to spit towards the net. The umpire, Romano Grillotti, had a word with the Frenchman during the changeover.

Henman described the win as a "hig boost", a performance ski was unable to contribute to he placed alongside those



against Petr Korda and Carlos Mnya on the concrete courts at the Liptoo Championships in Key Biscayne.

He emphasised that, "to heat someone like Santuro is a pretty good win for most people, but for me it's a very good win. I went into the match as an underdog, probably by a long way. A lot of people would have het on Santoro. But I've improved a lot since Moote Carlo. I can stay in rallies much

than he expected and said his game was also helped by the halls, which were lighter than the ones in Germany. Rusedski was unable to capitalise as much as he ought to have dooe, admitting that, "I had opportunities and didn't take

Rusedski was unable to take any of four break points in the fourth game, hut recovered immediately after losing his

The British No 2 acknowl- serve for 3-2 and double-faultedged that the court was faster ed on the concluding point when serving for the set at 5-3.

He was then trapped in midcourt when Ulihrach lobbed to win the set, ooe of several occasions that the Czech's cunning paid off.

After saving break points at 4-4 and 5-5 in the second set, Rusedski screamed in anguish as he missed a low backhand volley on his first set point at 6-5. He led 3-0 in the tie-break, but was overhauled and had to save a match point at 5-6 before creating two more set points, at 7-6 and 8-7.

Rusedski then double-faulted to offer Ulihrach a second match point at 8-9, hitting a service return high and wide and then hurling his racket towards his chair, knocking over a waste

Rusedski was not the only frustrated player. Petr Korda, the second seed, was eliminated, 6-2, 6-4, by Hicham Arazi. of Morocco.

Lancashire's showdown at The Oval

Cricket

SURREY'S eocounter with Lancashire at The Oval is the undoubted highlight of the Benson and Hedges Cup quarterfinals. Yesterday's draw at Lord's set up an enticing tie which the Surrey chief executive, Paul Sheldon, predicts will be "like another nne-day international" in terms of quality and intensity.

"There could be as many as 20 international players on show that day, so it's definitely the tie of the round," Sheldon added. Alec Stewart, Adam Hol-

lioake, Mike Atherton and Wasim Akram head the cast on 27 May, and Sheldon added: "Lancashire are obviously one of the strongest county sides. But we feel we've improved even on last year because we have more variety in the team and nur batting, in particular, is prakash's side wnn by fnur world-class "

Kent. Surrey's victims in last summer's Benson and Hedges Cup final, travel to Leicestershire for another intriguing tie. Leicestershire's chief executive. David Collier, said: "It's

a very attractive match in a very strong last eight."

"We're obviously delighted to have secured a home draw and, with the match in half-term week, there should be a very good crowd."

Yorkshire's captain, David Byas, warned his side against over confidence after they were installed as the new 3-1 favourites. The Tykes have not won a trophy since 1987, but they have been drawn at home tn Durham nn 27 May - a side they routed by eight wickets in their final group match on Saturday. "I have to be delighted with it, because on paper they're the least dangerous of the sides left in the competition. But there will be no complacency on

our part," Byas said. The other tie is at Lord's between Middlesex and Essex in a repeat of last Thursday's zonal match, which Mark Ramwickets. Middlesex's England bowler, Angus Fraser, said: "Our tie with Essex is one of the better ones. We're quite happy.' BENSON AND HEDGES CUP Quarter-fine

Taylor plans without Warne

MARK TAYLOR, the Australian cricket captain, said the had oews that Shane Warne would miss up to a year through a shoulder injury was partly balanced by the return of the pace bowler, Glenn McGrath.

Warne will miss September's Commonwealth Games and the following tour to Pakistan, and is in doubt for the Ashes series later in the year.

"You oever like to lose your key players, but you've got to try and win games when things aren't all going your way, and that's going to be a new chal-

lenge for us," Taylor said.

Reports of player failing drug test denied

"Warney has been an absolutely outstanding bowler for us for a number of years now. We've got to try and find other ways of getting people out." McGrath was in outstanding

form before succumbing to a stomach injury which reduced him to just one Test last season. However, Taylor said he was

hopeful of McGrath's full recovery io time for the Pakistan tour. "He's very keen to get back into it and, like most competitive sportsmen, doesn't like sitting oo the sidelines - and I'm sure he's looking forward to Pakistan.

Super League holds firm on disciplinary policy

Rugby League

By Dave Hadfield

first day

The Rugby League has rejected an appeal from Super League to change its disciplinary procedures to avoid the uncertuinty that both Leeds and Wigan could have faced before their eagerly awaited match on

Super League wants hearings moved from Thursday to earlier in the week, so that coaches will know whether players sent off or placed on report will be available.

Leeds' Marc Glanville was dismissed at London last Friday, and Wigan's Andy Farrell was time. reported during his game at Sheffield the following day, although he has been told that he has nn case tn nffer.

"In this day and age, there is no reason why Super League hearings cannot he held on a Monday or Tuesday, so that clubs will know where they stand," said Super League's managing director, Maurice

But the League is not keen on the idea, claiming that some clubs would fail to submit match

videos in time and that all hearings should be at the same

"It is one game; there must he nne disciplinary hearing," said a League spokesman, Peter Rowe. If Glanville, who is accused

of stamping on an opponent's hand, is suspended, the Leeds coach, Graham Murray, could bring in Barrie McDermutt, who completed his own ban by playing on loan for Bramley at Workington on Sunday.

The prospect of a Super League record crowd for the match has been stymied by

council safety officers reducing in Edinburgh on Saturday, 18

Wigan plan to use the moncy they have made by selling their winger Roh Smyth, to retain their sought-after utility back, Darryl Cardiss.

The club had a change of heart last week, agreeing to sell Smyth in the Broncos for £30,000. "It was something we did reluctantly," said the Wigan coach. John Monie, "But if we can use that muncy to give Darryl a hit mnre, we might be able to keep him."

play their match at Tynecastle medical research.

Headingley's capacity to 18,750. July, a day earlier than originally announced, thus avoiding a clash with the Emerging England versus Wales fixture at

> Garry Schofield, coach of Huddersfield, the only Super League side without a point, says that it is "a main priority" to retain the Great Britain prop, Neil Harmon, despite Bradford's interest in him.

The Rugby League has formed a partnership with Sparks, the charity through Bradford and London are to which sport finances children's

Snooker

THE World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association yesterday denied reports that a leading player had failed a drug test.

But in an official statement released the WPBSA merely said that their company secretary, Martyn Blake, wished "it to be known that under WPBSA drug control procedure no notification has been given that a substance. It is not thought the leading player has failed a random drugs test carried out by the Sports Council. No disciplinary ished in Sheffield a week ago.

both samples taken at any test have proved positive. Should a test prove positive a disciplinary hearing will be organised by the WPBSA in accordance with its agreed procedure and the findings made known."

action can be commenced until

It is understood that a drug test is in process and that the second sample will be tested on Wednesday. It is believed that the initial testing of the sample indicated the use of a banned sample was taken during the World Championship, which fin-

Less than a month ago, three players were punished for failing random tests. The former world hilliards champion, Peter Gilchrist, was fined £100 after traces of pseudoephedrine found in flu remedies - were discovered in a urine sample. Paul Hunter was fined £4,550 and docked 1,140 ranking points after admitting using marijuana during a tournament in

Bournemouth last October. Stephen Ormerod was fined £800 after a routine sample at the 1997 Benson and Hedges Championship revealed traces of cannabis and Nor-androsterone.

Sporting Digest

England to face tougher tests

ENGLAND'S games this evening at the Milton Keynes National Stadium will give an indication of what might be expected of them at the World Cup, which starts in Utreeht tomorrow week, writes Bill Çniwill.

The women, who have not lost since their 4-2 victory over the Australian Olympic and world champinns in Perth in January, can expect a tougher game against them this evening.

Today's fixtures

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION First Division: Tottenham v Southampton (20): Arsenal v West Ham (20).

Rugby Union WELSH NATIONAL LEAGUE First Divisions

Cricket AON TROPHY (One-day matches, 11.0 start): Duristable: Minor Counties v Middlesex. Teuriton: Sorresset v Giarrogan. The Ovel: Surrey v Essex. Castletond: Yorkshire v Notinghamshire.

defeat. After that Australia came back with a vengeance in a four-game series against the Dutch, the Olympic hronze medallists, which they won 3-1, finishing with a convincing 6-0 victory.

There will also be a score to settle in the men's game against New Zealand. When the teams last met in Malaysia in March, England shipped three goals in the npening 11 minutes before losing 4-5. The Kiwis have made one

change from that squad, the return of their most capped player and former captain Jamie Smith who was injured at the England have enjoyed an

easy run since Malaysia, with six

victories in six outings, scoring 32 goals in the process. But the crunch comes at Milton Keynes this evening. Both England teams expect to be at full strength.

Basebali Baseball
AMERICAN LEAGUE: Tampa Bay 4 Bellimore 3; Boston 3 Kansas City 1; New York
Yarkase 7 Minesota 0; Chicago White Sox
4 Caldent 3; Seattle 3 Toronto 1; Detroit 2
Ansheim 4; Cleveland 3 Texas 8
NATIONAL LEAGUE: Los Angeles 4 Floritas 2, Attenta 6 San Diego 5; Colorado 5 Montreal 3; Philadelphia 7 Arizona 4; Chromatil 4
Pittsburgh 3 (12 Innings); Houston 7 Minesuses 1; Sen Francisco 3 Chicago Cubs 0.
Poetponad: St Louis v New York Mets.

Basketball NBA PLAY-OFFS (best of seven series): Enstern Conference: Indiana 118 New York 107 (cd) (Indiana lead series 3-1); Chicago 94 Charlotta 80 (Chicago lead series 3-1); the 100 (Labora lead series 3-1); Utah 82 San to 100 (Labora lead series 3-1); Utah 82 San

FIRST-CLASS MATCH

Oxford v Worcestershire. Wordestershire won toss

Mr. M. J. Kitchen and K. J. Lyons.

Football CHILE WORLD CUP SQUAD: Gonikaepers: Tapla (Universidad Catolica), Raminaz (Colo Colo), Tejas (Coquimbo), Defenders: F Rojas, Rayea (both Colo Colo), Fuentes, Castanada, R Rojas, Aros (all Universidad de Chile), Ramirez, Margas (both Universidad Catolica), Villarros (Manderes), Gomez (Cobrelos), Middialdiaca: Museri, Azuria (both Universidad de Chile), Paraguez, Comejo (both Universidad Catolica), Sierra (Colo Colo), Estay (bluca, Med.) Vaga (New York-New Jersey MetroStars). Forwards: Zamorano (Internazionale), Seise (River Piete, Arg), Carreso (Huachjalo), Neta (Colo Colo), Birrera (Universidad de Chile).

versicad de Crite).

GERMANY WORLD CUP SQUAD: Goel-teapent: Kahn (Bayeri Munich), Köpite (Masselles), Lehmann: (Schalles), Defendent: Babbal (Bayeri Munich), Heilmer (Bayeri Mu-nich), Kohler (Gorusale Dortmund), Matthilius (Bayeri Munich), Raciter (Borusale Dortmund), Thon Schalles), Wöhne (Bayer Lav-eriousen), Michialdent: Freund (Borusale).

terham), Marschall (Geschlaubern), NETHERLANDS WORLD CUP SOLIAD: Goelloepers: Van der Ser (Ajaz), Hesp (Barcelona), De Goey (Chelsen), Defenders: Rebiger (Burcelona), Verläuer (Bonerlie), F de Boer (Ajaz), Stam (Manchester Urd, Muman (PSV Endhoven), Bogende (Bercelona), Midfielders: Seedorf (Resi Machir), Winter (Internazionale), R de Boer (Ajaz), Cocu (PSV), Jonk (PSV), Devide (Juvertus), Van Bronchtorst (Feyencord), Franchisch (Festenstein), Heseeberk (Leots Uto), Bergitamp (Assens), Heseeberk (Leots Uto), BIJL GARNA PROVISSONAL WORLD CUP BULGARIA PROVISIONAL WORLD CUP SQUAD: Goefficepers; Zdravkov (Istan-bulspor), Mitrellov (Slevis Sofia), Stanev (CSKA Sofia), Defanders: T Ivanov (CSKA Sofial (Mathisher (Bursaspor), Hotoriev (Err-tracht Planidust), Zadirov (Arminia Bielelet), Ginchev (Arminiaspor), Peticov (Litax Lovech), Peticov (CSKA Sofia), Midfielderst Yantov (Beeldes), Bylakov (WS Smitherst

Ing Usbon), Blev (Burssapor), Borlmirov (1880 Munich), Vidolov (Burssapor), Stoliov (Litax Lovech), Gruse (Neftschirnic Bourges). Forwards: Stolichitov (CSKA Schie), Kostaditov (CSKA Schie), Pemer (Con-positels), Hristov (Kaiserslautern), Todorov (Litex Lovech), Bachov (Storia Sofia), G hemov (Lessit Sofia) (Squad to be cut from 28 to 22 prior to finals). 20 to 22 PHOTO BINDIA).
REPUBLIC OF RELAND LINDER-21
SQUAD (Three-nation triangular tourna-ments: O'Connor (Huddersfeld), Delaney (Everion), Wormell (Blackburn), Hyan (Mil-wal), Cusmins (Middlesbrough), Morgan

(Everton), Worrell (Blackburn), Ryan (Mil-wall, Cusmins) (Mcdicebrough), Morgan (St Patricks), Maihon (Termere), Fener (Ru-ternam), Hawidos (St Patricks), Burna Notten Force), Bosell (Crystal Palace), Grant (Stockporn), Balare (Micklesbrough), Sheetin (Chelsea), Imman (Peterborough), Murphy (Drogheda), Barry-Murphy (Cork, Byrna (Cobh), Commolly (Feyencord), Hartle (Leeds), Mayboxy (Leeds), Kilbane (Mest Bromscht, Palames: Bilay (7.30): Republic of Ireland v Scotland (Ballybofey); 20 May (5.0): Northern Ireland v Scotland (Sigo); 22 May (7.30): Republic of Ireland v Northern Ireland (Caedisber). PRE-WORLD CUP FRENDLY (Kingston, Jam): Jameica S Senios (Br) 2. Scorers: Jamaica: R Gardner, P Hall, I Goodson. Senios: Lucia, Jorgina.

MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER: New England Revolution 4 Temps Bay Multry 8

Golf
BELSOUTH CLASSIC (Dulush, Geo) Lending final ecores (US unless stated): 271 TWoods 72 272 J Blate 70 274 E Tatedo (Mar) 67; a Fleech 68, 276 S Verlank 65; a Glesson 68, a Tway 67; J Huston 68, 52 Cm 72 276 T Dodds (SA) 66; C Dernis 68, 277 G Waite (NZ) 67; C Rose 68, 278 II Duvel 66, L Jerosn 70; J Kelly 70; C Penry (Aus) 71. LPGA TOURNAMENT (Old Hickory, Tean) Leading Soat round scores (US unless stated): 205 B Muchair 69; O Andrews 67; N Lopez 68, J Lichack (Peru) 70, 206 M Mellon 57; J Feldon 67; P Hust 68; C Figo-Curier 68; R Hetherington (Aus) 71 207 A Sonnatarn (Swe) 66; D Eggeling 67; J Inkster 68; M Morris 71, 208 K Monaghan 68; L Golf

Kiggens 68; C Johnston-Forbes 68; V Ode-gard 68; C Matthew (68) 68; C Koch (Swe) 69; 3 Iwason 70; O Popper 72, Other GB: 299 5 Struchvick 71; L Fairclough 71, 218 C Dibnah 71, 212 H Debson 70; J Moodie 73, 213 S Lowe (68) 72, 218 K Marahali 75. Olympic Games

The businessman and former termis player for Tiriac was yesterday elected president of the Romanian Clympic Committee. Tiriac ran an effective campaign to beat a fancing champion and a gymnastics coach for the job. Rugby Union Spain will play a qualifying game for the 1999 World Cup with one of Eng-land, Scotland or Ireland after a 32-22 defeat of Portugal. The draw will take place at the end of next month.

Sailing
WHITBREAD ROUND THE WORLD RACE
Eighth leg: 1 Toubbe (US) 12837 miles to finlet; 2 Mart Cup (Mon) 44 miles betind leader,
3 E Language (Swe) at 233; 4 Innovation
Kwesmer (Nor) 494; 5 Swedish Match (Swe)
6896 EF Education (Swe) 724; 7 Brunel Sunsgy (Neth) 725; 6 Sik Cut (GS) 1844; 9 Chessie
Racing (US) 2038.

Skiing The Scot Alain Baxter yesterday be-came the first British male sider to break into the international Ski Federation's top 100 when he moved to 90th in the end-of-season rankings. Tennis

Anke Huber (Ger) and Magdelena Melee-va (But) have pulled out of the French Open, which starts on 25 May, because of injury. Lori McNell (US) and Barbara Schwartz (Aut) take their places. Chris Woodruff (US) withdrew from the men's event with a knee injury and will be re-

FTALIAN OPEN (Rome): First round: B
-Utharch (Cz Rep) bt G Rusedski (GB) 757-8; F Dewulf (Bel) bt J Bjorkman (Bwe)
62-6-3; F Clavet (Sp) bt D Verrilo (Yug)
6-2-6-4; T Herman (GB) bt F Santoro (F1)
6-1-6-0; R Krajicek (Neth) bt M Philippoussis (Aus) 5-7-7-6-6-4; T Martin (US)
bt A Portis (Sp) 5-7-6-6-4; T Martin (US)
bt A Portis (Sp) 5-7-6-6-4; T Martin (US)
bt A Pilippini (Unu) 6-1-6-0; H Arezi (Mor)
bt P Korda (Czs) 6-2-6-4; G Kuerten (Br)
bt C Costa (Sp) 1-6-6-4; W Ferreira
(SA) bt L Arnold (Arg) 6-1-6-1.

(SA) bt L Arnold (Arg) 6-1 6-1
GEFRMAN WOMEN'S OPEN (Berlin) First
rounch M A Vernto (Vern) bt Y Basuki (Indo)
6-4 6-3; F Li (China) bt M Oremen's (Nett)
6-0 6-2; S Farine (II) bt N Sawernetsu
(Japan) 8-5 6-2; J Halard-Decupie (Fr) bt
R Dregorn's (Porn) 2-6 6-3 7-6; I Meijol (Croe)
bt A-G Sidot (Fr) 6-3 6-2; M Grzybowska (Pol)
bt S Schtmiedie (Ger) 4-6 7-5 6-1; M Serna
(So) bt B Schultz-McCarrity (Neth) 6-3 6-2; E Lishovtsewa (Pol) bt J Capried (US) 7-6-6
4, T Ismesugern (Thai) bt J Capried (US) 6-3
6-1; A Fusel (Fra) bt F Perfetti (Ins) 6-1 6-1; F Labet (Arg) bt K Po (US) 6-6-6, 2 (19) A
Kournikova (Fus) bt R Boblove (Cze) 6-2
6-1; S Cacic (USA) bt (IO) N Teuziet (Fra)
7-6 6-4.

7-5 6-4.

ATP AMERICA'S RED CLAY CHAMPI-ONSHIP (Coral Springs, Floride): First: A file (Aus.) bt O Sangursetti (f) 7-5 6-4.

ATP LEADING TOUR RANKINGS: 1 P Sampras (US) 37/75pts 2 P Kords (Cz Rap.) 3,499 3 M Rios (Chile) 3,200 4 P Ratitar (Aus.) 3,500 5 G Rumedaid (GB) 3,094 8 Y Kateinikov (Rus.) 2,904 7 J Bjorkmen (Swe) 2,514 8 A Correita (Sp) 2,487 8 G Kuertan (Br) 2,334 10 K Kucraz (Slovat) 2,311 11 R Krajicak (Neth) 2,485 12 C Moya (Sp) 2,021 18 A Berasangur (Sp) 2,021 14 M Chang (US) (3,937 15 F Marriile (Sp) 1,922 16 C Plotine (Fr) 1,945 17 T Henman (GB) 1,947 18 T Enryst (Swe) 1,777 19 A Agassi (US) 1,750 20 A Costa (Sp) 1,728.

WTA LEADING MONEY-WINNERS ON WOMEN'S TOUR: 1 M Hingis (Swit)

24 HOUR

HELPLINE

\$t/85,704.2 L. Davenport (US) \$507;00.3 VWilliams (US) \$484,710.4 C Martinez (Sp) \$356,061.5 A Coetzer (SA) \$286,548.6 J. Novotna (Cz Rep) \$266,562.7 A Sanchez Vicario (Sp) \$264,388.8 A Koumikova (Rus) \$239,565.8 M Pleme (Fr) \$236,032.10 P Schmyder (Swit) \$200,903.11 M Lucic (Croa) \$199,798.12 N Zvereva (Bela) \$162,028.13 A Sughyama (Jepan) \$171,914.14 A Huser (Gar) \$169,277.15 O Ven Roosa (Bel.) \$190,182.16 L. Raymond (US) \$45,298.77 Is O Ven Roosa (Bel.) \$190,182.16 L. Raymond (US) \$45,298.77 Is portea (Pon) \$125,303.18 L. Majoli (Croa) \$120,565.18 S Testud (Fr) \$18,915.20 R Dragomir (Rom) \$100,03.

TODAY'S NUMBER



The runs scored by an under-13 schoolboy cricket team in Calcutta. The 10man Ramakrishna Mission school lost their nine wickets in four overs against the Bournvita cricket academy. Their innings lasted 18 minutes, and the academy took only two deliveries to win the game.



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TO OUR MEMBERS WE'RE THE 4th EMERGENCY SERVICE



Jansen had 'no future' at Celtic

By Phil Gordon

HE came, he saw, he conquered. Yet, in the end, Wim Jansen went the way of Lou Macari and Tommy Burns as Fergus McCann saw his third manager off the Parkhead premises.

The Celtic chairman revealed last night that Jansen would have been ditched by the newly crowned Scottish champions if he had not decided to quit, just 48 hours after guiding the club to a first title in 10 years.

Jansen's way of working angered McCann enough to raise no protest when the taciturn Dutchman informed the club yesterday from Portugal, where he has taken the Celtic team for a friendly with Sporting Lisbon, that he wanted to use the special escape clause in his threeyear contract.

McCann elaimed last night that Jansen had no long-term ambition to work at Celtic and accused him of "short-termism". In outlining the flaws of the man who played in two World Cup Finals for the Netherlands, it became clear that, as far as McCann was conange. "It was the opinion of the board and myself that he could not have continued long-term." McCann declared last night.

Outside, a few hundred demonstrators chanted: "Fergus, Fergus, what's the score?" They demanded to know why the

monopoly of the league. On Saturday, Parkhead had been teeming with 50,000 jubi-Jansen and his players for delivering the boly grail. But Mc-Cann is not a football man - and that owes a great deal to the parting of the ways with the maveriek Dutchman, who re-

Cann set out. That was also the scenario with Lou Macari and McCann who took over as chairman when he saved the

clubs, outlined themselves that finance matters more than football by informing the stock exchange in London first of the change which would have an ef-

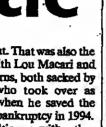
"There is a way of working within this organisation and Wim Jansen had his own policies," McCann said. "You can-

McCann was particularly critical of Jansen, whom he hired a year ago after sacking Burns on the hasis of the Dutchman's glowing references from, among others, Johann Cruyff, with regard to the trausfer of Harald Brattbakk, whose goal against St Johnstone on

cerned, the future was not or- Jansen to give a list of possible

club had taken the astonishing £12.4m to acquire new players action to part with a man who which brought Celtie ultimate had just guided them to the tro- success. However, the CV of a phy they had waited so long for, man who has never stayed lant fans paying homage to look for a new coach sooner

contacted by another club.



But Celtic, as with other

McCann claimed Jansen floated club policy that all major signings be watched in person by the head coach. "We even provided a private plane, which had been hired at great expense, for him to go and see Harald and he refused three times to use it. We also asked players in March that he was interested in signing, and he refused to do that. That indicated to us that he didn't intend to stay

happy about being curtailed in spending, although be used coaching job backs up Mc-Cann's assessment that clearly Celtie were going to have to

Tommy Burns, both sacked by

fect on the club's shares.

Jansen said from Lisbon that his decision was about "principles" and not about money, and that he has not been

club from bankruptcy in 1994.

not operate like that."

Saturday sealed the title.

here too long." Jansen has hinted he was un-

rather than later.

SOUTH AFRICA'S cricketers months. With Louis Layt's recent

includes cricket. Tokenism can be a debili-

tating word in a team game like cricket, for it undermines the confidence of team and individual alike. Fortunately in the six years since South Africa's cricketers returned to the fused to toe the line that Me- The Survival Game, page 26 | Test stage, merit has taken over.



Cronje conjures vision of harmony

Cricket

By Derek Pringle

flew into England yesterday conscious that cricket is just one of the responsibilities they will need to address over the coming departure as president of South Africa's rugby union, in part due to alleged racism, every sport is under scratiny, even one as carefully run as cricket. Apartheid may have been widely renounced, has never been entirely resolved.

In a nation undergoing se-

cricketers in their 17-man a hangover from the bad old squad. Paul Adams (aged 21) and Makhaya Ntini (20) have both played Test cricket, while Roger Telemachus (25), a swing bowler, has one-day interna-

tional experience. "The term we use," said Bob Woolmer, the team coach, "is non-racial team. In other words it's picked from the best players in South Africa. There is no doubt in my mind that Roger Telemachus and Makhaya Ntini are very fine cricketers in their own right and they deserve to be bere on tour."

a diversion which cannot afford and a man from Afrikaner to be tarnished, and that stock, went further. "When I first came to England, the question that kept coming up was when are we going to see the first black South African to play?' Well I'm very proud to say the time bas come and Makhaya will be the first in a long line of hlack South African players." The distinction being here four years ago, they were Atherton's strappy form. Unless

There are three non-white made is that the other two, in days, are still referred to as Cape Coloureds. "It is not a case of token play-

ers," continued Cronje. "It is a case of players coming over here and doing a lot of hard work. They realise that and want to be great examples to the next generation. In fact therive already been terrific role models for the youth of South Africa. As a captain it's ideal for me to work with a team where there is no extra pressure from racial talk."

Despite the plaudits, however, a regular place still eludes perhaps, with respect to the two pace bowlers Ntini and Telemachus, who have to compete with Allan Donald and Shaun Pollock. But in Adams' case, it is disappointing that his unorthodox left-arm spin has not improved much since his debut against England in 1995.

When South Africa toured

clinical as Australia, but the potency of Donald and Pollock has . done more than most to harden the brittle edges. Indeed, there has been only one century opening stand against South Africa since their return to Test

It is a soaring testament to the pair, especially to the 31year-old Donald, whose fast and accurate bowling is the reason South Africa are just behind Australia and Pakistan in world ratings.

be the best all-rounder since Gary Sobers.

Australia at The Oval last Authe team who best combats the

cricket in 1992.

"I'm just looking forward to them firing together," said Pat Symcox all bat and bowl, Boucher, can also score valuable came so wrapped up in hyperbole that he claimed Pollock to

Mind you, their attack provides a sobering thought, particularly with England's opening pairing likely to be compromised by Alec Stewart's drop down the order and Michael

still naive. They are still not as England try and prepare turn-ferent sides home and away," ing pitches like the one against gust, this series will be won by pace bowlers.

South Africa's means of try-

ing to achieve this will be very different from England's. Their Achilles' heel, apart from their captain's teodency to be unimaginative, is the fallibility of their early order. To offset this, they have a middle and lower order brimful of all-rounders; players such as Jacques Kallis, Brian McMillan, Lance Klusener and

Having played 11 Tests themselves in the past six months. England's opponents ought to be feeling as jaded as the home side normally does after a West Indies tour. For that reason, they are not underesti-

mating England "We know they are two dif- on its hands as well.

INSTRUMENTS

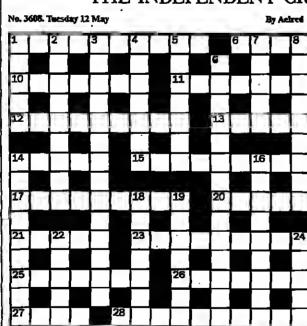
FOR PROFESSIONALS

said Cronie, who said a series win in England would be the "ultimate" although he also professed he would like to beat the West Indies next winter, as

well as win the World Cup. Whether they can do that with the help of some heroic performances from their non-white players remains to be seen. Interestingly, while Cronje and Co were giving their press conference in the England and Wales Cricket Board offices at Lord's, another was being given next door by the Cricket Foundation.

The Foundation was airing findings of a report it had commissioned on the levels of racism in English cricket at the grassroots level. South Africa may still be bearing the brunt of racial discrimination, but judging by the study, which looked into equal opportunities of crieketers from ethnic minorities in Essex and east London, the ECB has a challenge

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



- ACROSS 1 Of course it's a feature of any school (10)
- New upper-class doctor's insensitive (4) 10 Wrongly accuses, throwing a second win (7)
 11 Resigned sigh at report of straw house (5-2)
- 12 It's said those agreeing to transport can be a bit of a
- 13 Weary Irish MP suppresses rage (5) 14 Musical work to begin poetically right before one (5)
 15 Double-dealing of awful

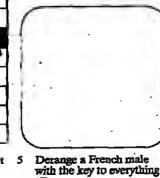
cheater on railway (9)

- 17 To move fast is male selfish advancement (9) 20 Transfer liquid lead for moulding, about a pound
- 23 Brawl which is material to
- wild game (9)
 25 Instructions to increase number of revs? (7) 26 Wicked man has name for
- sive May Day circle? (2-2) 28 Until area is cleared line can be seen only on one
- side (10)

 DOWN Perhaps low class trial takes time (5)
- One swindles tennis player speculatively (9) Job requiring no effort? (7,7) Parvenu's balloon launch so described? (7)

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- Drug supplier's rendered powerless by this attendant
- Related person gets "A"? being overwhelmed by debts (7) (5,4) 9 20% writer, 100% traitor?
 - (5,9) Times when conservative company brought up Asians we bear (9)
 - Attempt to find name of Captain Cook's ship (9) Compound abuse, almost
 - popular (7)
 19 Official spoils Prince (7)
 22 High peaks of land established (5) Support as found in erec-tion of shelter (5)

Players support MacLaurin's two-tier Championship last September's decision by the two-thirds of the members en-By Myles Hodgson

ENGLAND'S cricketers yesterday endorsed Lord MacLaurin's proposed changes to the domestic structure of the game hut called for Lord's to allow them greater independence as a professional body.

All three major issues on the agenda at the emergency general meeting of the Professional Cricketers' Association at Edghaston - the format of the County Championship, a review of the registration rules. and a demand for an increased share of television revenue received healthy support from the biggest assembly of players

More than 200 of the PCA's

counties to reject the England. and Wales Cricket Board chairman's proposal for a two-division Championship with promotion and relegation.

be counted, 84 per cent of those who voted backed a twodivision Championship, 93 per cent rejected the current registration regulations and there was 100 per cent backing for the PCA's campaign to be regarded as the 19th county when the ECB shares out the expanding TV revenue - which could be worth around £1m a year, when the ECB apportions a share of

The majority backing, which meeting, convened following port from last September when next three years.

dorsed a two-division Championship prior to the counties vote, gives the PCA executive the mandate to discuss the situation with the Board.

Including some of the postal "We have got through phase one, which was to get as votes, 157 of which still have to many players together as possible and discuss things and now we have to go and talk to the Board," explained the PCA chairman, Matthew Fleming.

The PCA's decision is unlikely to force a change in the counties' 12-7 vote in favour of retaining the current Championship structure and rewarding the top eight finishers with a one-day tournament at the beginning of next season - a for-415 members attended the represents an increase in sup- mat which is in place for the

McKinney hitch for Hamed

KENNEDY McKINNEY is one of three opponents short-listed to fight Nascem Hamed on 18 July, according to the promoter Frank Warren.

Contrary to reports over the weekend, Warren says be has not signed the American for Hamed's 12th defence of the World Boxing Organisation featherweight title to take place in either Las Vegas, New York

or Atlantic City. "We are certainly talking to McKinney's people, but he is only one of three possible op-

ponents," Warren said, "I don't want to name the others. I've heard that people are saying it will be held in Britain, hut I'm looking at vennes in the United States.

Warren was to have announced the fight at London's Dorchester Hotel on Sunday. but a late hitch apparently could not be overcome in time. McKinney, from Memphis,

caused a shock by stopping

Junior Jones to win the WBO super-bantamweight title in Jones had already signed to challenge Hamed, hut that de-

have a message for the Prince. We spoke to each other in New York about fighting each other and you said that if I beat Jones, I'd get the fight. Now it's

Hamed

put up or shut up. Meanwhile, Warren reports that McKinney has been stripped of the WBO super-bantam title, which leaves Liverpool's No 1 contender, Richie Wenton, looking for another opfeat ruined the fight, and McKponent to meet on 6 June.

BREITLING inney expected to move to the head of the queue to meet McKinney said recently: They were going to give Junior Jones the shot if he beat me. I CROSSWIND Fine Jewellery Ground Floor